

# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

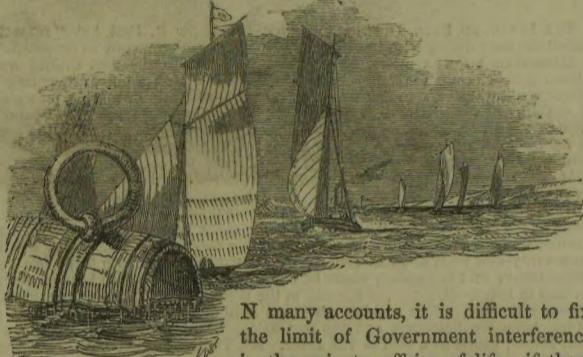


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FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1847.

[SIXPENCE.]

## THE RIVER AND THE STEAMERS.



In many accounts, it is difficult to fix the limit of Government interference in the private affairs of life: if there is anything from which a country should pray to be delivered, it is a Government that arrogates to itself the title and duties of a "patriot" one, for under it a people soon becomes apathetic, dependent, and almost incapable of exertion. But total neglect of what may be called the internal police of a nation, is quite as mischievous; and this is the side on which we err. For the protection of property, we have more extensive and better arrangements than any people of Europe; we are well watched and well lighted, at all hours and in all places: the depredator of a handkerchief scarcely has hold of your property, ere the law, through its officer, has tight hold of him. The silk bandana, the net purse, and the watch, are not left exclusively to your own custody—a free and constitutional Government has its eye on them, and its strong hand on all who may be tempted to effect an unauthorised transfer of the possession.

Your life, on the other hand, is but partially cared for; no individual, certainly, may kill or slay you, with weapons or otherwise; but Corporations and Companies, enrolled "according to Act of

Parliament," may make away with and destroy you almost with impunity. With a good dividend in view, the great conveyancers of the age may cut down expenses to the lowest possible point, may load trains and crowd steamers to the utmost limit of what they will hold; and when an accident happens, the public is thrown into a "state of great excitement," General Pasley investigates, a Coroner enquires, a few widows and orphans are thrown on the public funds for support; if the case is very bad, some underling is discharged, or perhaps imprisoned: but more frequently it turns out that nobody is to blame, that, on the contrary, everybody has been "most exemplary and attentive in the discharge of their duties," and in a few days the whole affair is forgotten, and things go on just as before.

The destruction of the *Cricket* steamer, loaded with people in the midst of what may now be called one of the most public thoroughfares of London, though attended with a loss of life almost miraculously small compared to what it might have been under any other circumstances, or had it occurred a few minutes sooner or later, has excited rather more than the usual degree of attention.

As some thousands have during the past year run a daily risk of being scalded to death, blown to atoms, or drowned by a cheap company, for "the small sum of a halfpenny," there is at the present moment a lively sense of peril escaped, and some doubts whether cheapness may not in some cases be dearly purchased. We will avail ourselves of the opportunity to make a few observations on the whole condition of the London river, and the conveyance upon it, which we have no hesitation in pronouncing disgraceful to the age.

The *Cricket* and its engines were a product of the spirit of competition carried to the point where it becomes dangerous to the public, instead of serviceable. The problem whether it was possible to convey a mass of some two hundred human beings through

a certain space, by steam, at a halfpenny each, with a profit, was decided in the affirmative by certain speculators; only one element was left out of the calculation—the safety of those conveyed; that was a matter of perfect indifference. The ignorance of the mass of the public on all such matters is total and complete; and as in a city with nearly two millions of inhabitants there is always an immense number to whom cheapness is an object, every scheme, with that for the bait, will answer in a money sense. If a company were to knock together a hulk of rotten wood in the shape of a steamer, and fit it with engines warranted to burst at the lowest pressure—yet if they offered to carry the confiding and careless public at a farthing a head, twice the distance it is possible to do for a penny, the wretched tub would be loaded till there was no standing room. Now the question is, whether individual avarice should be allowed to speculate unchecked on public ignorance, with the certainty of causing an indefinite destruction of human life? We think not. While a case of manslaughter, or murder, or homicide by misadventure, sets in motion a whole machinery for detection and punishment, the prevention of wholesale slaughter, perpetrated for the gain of a certain per centage on so much capital, ought to be made rather more difficult than it is at present. To those who mingled with the terror-stricken crowds who gathered at the river side after the explosion of the *Cricket*, it was evident that a sense of a want of some protection against the "competition" of the many speculators in locomotion, exists in the public mind. Vague expressions that "the Government ought to do something," were frequent; it is useless to say the public need not use these modes of conveyance if they do not like; the bulk of the public neither reason, nor enquire, nor have the means of enquiring, whether a steamer or a railway is safe or not. They see a certain price, and a certain distance they are to be carried for it; they rush in thousands to the "cheap" boat, or the "cheap" excursion train—the very immensity of the number



EXPLOSION ON BOARD THE "CRICKET" THAMES STEAMER.—(SEE PAGE 147.)

giving an idea of security; and it is only some hideous accident that startles them into a knowledge of the truth, and of the rottenness of the material agents their lives are trusted to.

It may be said, too, that by law there is some power of inspection and control given to somebody over these matters; Acts of Parliament certainly exist, but they are dead letters; practically, they are never enforced. Who inspected or warranted safe, the engines of the *Cricket*, about which the most that is known is, that they were meant to effect an un-heard-of saving in fuel. No one knows whether either captain or engineer were at their post; it is said to be a common practice in the river steamers to leave the engines to themselves for uncertain intervals of time, short or long, as the case may be; there is no periodical examination of the boats or machinery; it is left to the conscience of the proprietors to work both as long as they will hold together; if a case of palpable neglect is seen by the passengers, there are no means of punishing it; and even after such a dreadful accident as the last, on the first day of the inquest, no one attended on the part of the Government, either to speak to the state or nature of the engines, or to watch the enquiry on the part of the public, nor was it stated that any official measures had been taken in the matter. The proprietors of the boat and the makers of the engines were represented by skilled legal gentlemen, ready to twist every statement of public ignorance or public fear to the advantage of their clients; in fact, to entangle and confuse the main question as much as possible, that the blame, if there be any, may, as usual, rest on—nobody. What chance has the public under such circumstances?

The more closely the system of conveyance on the river is examined, the more plainly it will be seen that the wholesome regulations enforced on land have not been applied to it—though they are much more required. We will run over a few points of contrast.

Every omnibus, every driver, and every conductor is numbered, and, in case of insolence, overcharge, or misconduct, summary process is very possible: it is the same with every cab; and the knowledge of the hold their fare has on them, insures a very fair degree of civility and good conduct: considering their numbers, summons are rare; and, it has been remarked, by one of the London Magistrates, that, in any dispute as to distance, in the majority of cases the cabman is right. Compare this control and its result with the state of things on the river: the ticket-sellers and ticket-takers on the piers, and their hangers-on, are, perhaps, the most unprincipled and ill-conducted men of their class in the metropolis. If they think they have the slightest chance of success, they will deny the receipt of a check, and exact the fare again; and the amount of plunder realised in this way is immense: where they cannot effect this they are insolent to excess; and, as there is generally a knot of four or five supporting each other, a single passenger has no chance: threats of violence, gross abuse, sometimes actual assaults, are common; and very few of these cases ever come before a Magistrate, for, to punish a steamboat official, you must hunt up a whole series of officers: if you find somebody called a secretary he refers you to somebody else called a solicitor, and you are politely informed you "may bring an action!"

A policeman is, of course, never to be found, and any enquiry as to the name of any of these vagabonds, is quite useless. As to the safety of the public, it is left to chance; the only check on the number of passengers is the vessel's power of floating. As long as she can swim the captains pack them together, till it is just possible to stand upright, under tight compression; the swaying of the boats is sometimes awful, and we have seen old sailors, who had often crossed the Atlantic, turn pale at the evident danger of which the cockney freight was blissfully, but not securely ignorant. One crack in the machinery, and its consequent alarm and rush, would send the whole mass to the bottom; and some day it will happen. This scene is hourly repeated; yet while licensing omnibuses and hackney carriages for a certain number of passengers only, we suffer a steamer to pile up human beings on its deck till even avarice begins to fear, and puts off just clear of the sinking point. What is punished in the Strand is permitted on the river, though on the river the practice is a hundred times more perilous. Again, all omnibuses are timed, and are compelled to observe a comparative regularity; steamers stop where they please, and lately have, in some instances, refused to go their full journey after the fares had been paid for it! There was, as usual, no redress. Omnibus proprietors are not allowed to obstruct the public streets by boardings and erections for their own purposes. On the river banks steamboat companies appear to do just what they like, throwing out long lines of rickety piers, made of dirty barges, planked over, at any spot that suits them; two rival companies may place their piers side by side, where one would suffice, on the principle of the two holes in the barn-door, the big one for the cat, and the small one for the kitten! At these double places of embarkation the public is continually deluded into taking wrong tickets for the boat that never comes, to the stirring up of vexation and bile. All along the river banks these piers are an eyesore, a public nuisance, and an obstruction. Only in one place has the evil been remedied—at Blackfriars, where, after the drowning of a due number of her Majesty's subjects, the Corporation built something like a convenient landing place, the use of which was forced on the steamers by something like a civil or rather civic war. Everywhere else the finest highway through the greatest capital of Europe, is obstructed by a series of floating abominations that would disgrace a nation of Esquimaux. Let any one look at the two banks of the Thames, from where it enters the metropolis to where it quits it, and ask himself if they resemble the boundaries of a wealthy capital, of the centre and heart of the nation that can construct Docks and Railways? Heaps of mud, in some places becoming overgrown with rushes and marshy vegetation, though close to the traffic of the Strand; filthy sewers, open to the eye, and still more perceptible by the nose; dirt, dilapidation, disorder, and every sordid and noxious thing, disgrace the banks of the River ludicrously misnamed the "Silver Thames." Yet the Corporation of London is supposed to be the "conservators" of this important artery, and possesses wealth in that capacity: what it does, or what is its duty, no one can define; but one fact is evident—that, under the conservation of the City, the Thames is fast degenerating into a filthy ditch—a sewer of considerable size, with a tide in it. The fact is, the River, and all upon it, is shamefully neglected: the regulations that are enforced on the traffic of the streets have no parallel on the water, though the "silent highway" is becoming more used than the paved one. If a complaint is made, the Lord Mayor has no power, and the delinquents escape. The new state of things has outgrown the old regulations, and no new ones adequate to the purpose are made. The old watermen were as much checked by the law as the cabmen; Steam has exterminated them; the same controlling power ought now to be placed over the steamers that supply their place. Why should they be allowed to run with defective engines any more than a cab can be driven with horses unequal to their load? The Government must take the City authorities in hand, and stir them into something like life; if they cannot remove the useless piers that obstruct the River way, and supply something more worthy of us, the work must be done by others who can. All that is subjected to the Corporation seems to grow torpid and dead; but the River is its triumph of carelessness and apathy. There, steamers, piers, and all about them, require a sharp revision and superintendence. How many more explosions and drownings will be required to effect it?

## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

## PARISIANA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, August 31.

The Court of Peers met yesterday at two o'clock, and the sitting opened with a long report of the Chancellor, which was followed by the requisitory of the Procureur General, after which the Court decided that the public action against the Duke of Praslin was extinct, and that Henriette Deluzy Desportes was to be sent before the Tribunal de Première Instance, for the continuation of the proceedings commenced against her. As it was expected, the Chancellor has deemed it necessary to have printed and circulated among the Peers a collection of the letters of the Duchesse de Praslin, together with all the details of the proceedings interrogatories, &c., the whole of which amounts to more than 200 quarto pages.

Although no official documents have been published as yet respecting the contemplated changes in the Algerine administration, the Parisian press agrees in stating that the Government has come to a final decision on that important question. The Duke of Aumale is to be Governor-General, and have for his major mentor General Changarnier, who shall be promoted to the rank of Major-General. A sole direction for civil affairs will be substituted for the present three directors of Finances, the Interior, and Public Works.

Lastly, the affairs of Algeria, instead of being as formerly, under the exclusive control of the Minister of War, will be divided between the different departments of Government; but there is to be in the office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, a central direction, in which will be concentrated the whole of the correspondence between the colony and the mother country.

A Council of Ministers was held on Sunday last at St. Cloud, at which the King presided. It is reported that some important decisions were come to, and that attachés of the Foreign Office were sent off in the evening for Madrid, Rome, Naples, and London. The *Union Monarchique* pretends that the English Cabinet had just sent an order to the Ionian Islands to prepare an expedition for Italy; and, according to the same paper, the decisions of the Council are relative to this bold proceeding of Lord Palmerston's.

The Parisian papers have not relented in their denunciations against the general corruption of the Administration; and some of their accusations were lately corroborated by a rather striking incident in the Benier's Jun. trial before the Assize Court of the Seine. M. Turien, the Chief Judge, sitting on his bench, did formally declare that all the debates made it evident to him that in the administration of the War Department, all was disorder and falsity.

M. Delangle, the Procureur-General, has ordered an investigation into the abuses and depredations of the Algerine functionaries recently exposed by M. Warner, delegate of the city of Bona.

If a Lyons paper is well informed, M. Gramier de Carragnal has been honoured with a mission in Algeria.

The columns of our contemporaries continue to be replete with such reports as would force us into a belief that man, like the minor brutes, is sometimes visited with strange fits of madness. On Saturday last, the Count Alfred de Montesquieu, an officer of the Legion d'Honneur, committed suicide by stabbing himself in the heart; gambling losses are said to have prompted him to his desperate resolution. The day before, an *infernal machine*, an oaken box-all filled with gunpowder and all sorts of projectiles, had exploded on the Boulevard des Italiens, but fortunately without causing any injury. A young workman, who was accused of having thrown it down on the pavement, has been taken into custody, but there are strong motives to suppose that he innocent of the act imputed to him.

The small village of Bast, near Geaune, in the Landes, has lately witnessed an instance of barbarous superstition, which could be matched with the darkest records of the middle ages. An old woman named Proeres had given a pear to a child, the son of a certain Fautoux, an inhabitant of the same parish. After eating the fruit the young boy was taken ill, and the parents did not hesitate in deciding that the pear must have been bewitched. Accordingly, they took hold of the woman, threatening to burn her alive if she did not take off instantly the curse she had cast on the child. Of course, she could not comply with their injunction, whereupon the infuriated savages dreadfully scorched her legs with inflamed torches, and finally forced her into a hot oven. Her shrieks having attracted some neighbours to the spot, she was rescued, at last, from her tormentors; but it was too late, and her life could not be saved.

The health of the Prince de Joinville is much more satisfactory since he has arrived in Paris.

M. Frederic Soulié, the celebrated dramatist and novel writer, is not dead, as it was rumoured; on the contrary, he is fast recovering from his severe indisposition.

A few days before the murder of the Duchess of Praslin, the Duke had sat for his portrait to M. Arnasy Duval. The same artist was completing, at that moment, a series of cartoons, designed to be worked out in stained glass for the windows of the chapel in the Duke's chateau.

For some days past, our artistic papers have been bestowing rather exaggerated encomiums on the last work of M. Rude, a bronze monument representing Napoleon's apotheosis, or rather his awaking from death to glory on the *Rocher de St. Hélène*. The composition is ingenious, and the execution skilful; but the Imperial figure, lying under a military cloak, is evidently deficient in plastic qualities. M. Rude has equally achieved a bronze image of Cavaignac, which is to be placed on the tomb of the late publicist in Montmartre Churchyard.

The paintings, sculptures, and architectural works of the pupils of the Ecole de Beaux Arts, for the Annual Prize competition, will be exhibited from the 8th to the 24th September.

On last Saturday, the twelve acts of the "Fils du Diable" were produced at the Ambigu Comique. The author of this new piece is Mr. Paul Teval, who, after walking in the wake of M. Sue, as a novel writer, is now following M. Dumas's example, viz., adapting his *feuilletons* to the stage, and accomplishing the rather miraculous feat of keeping up, for five long hours, the interest and curiosity of his audience. The novel which he has metamorphosed into a drama, had appeared in the late journal, *L'Époque*.

M. Alfred de Musset, one of the most original among the modern poets of France, is said to be preparing a comedy for the Theatre Francais.

To-day it is generally affirmed that a naval squadron has been ordered to sail for the Adriatic, and prepare for a landing of troops, in the case of the Austrians refusing to evacuate the city of Ferrara.

According to other rumours, M. Cunin Gridaine is not to remain in office after M. Guizot's return from Val de Richer, and M. Bignon has been prevailed upon to succeed him in the Department of Commerce and Agriculture.

Serious negotiations are going on to make way for the appointment of Marshal Bugeaud to the post of Minister of War.

## FRANCE.

The Parisians were painfully excited on Tuesday morning by an account of an attempt made by the Prince d'Eckmühl, hereditary Peer of France, son of the late Marshal Davoust, to kill his mistress. This young man has been for a length of time, from excesses of various kinds, troubled in the brain. About a week previously his conduct became so extravagant that it was considered necessary to have him carefully watched; he, however, contrived to escape, on Monday evening, from the hotel where he was confined, and rushed through the streets with head bare, and in slippers. In this state he called on a young woman to whom he was attached, and, from some provocation, attempted to kill her with, it is said, a knife lying on the table of her room. Fortunately he possessed so little steadiness of purpose at the time, that, after inflicting two slight wounds on her, he again rushed out of the house, and continued wandering about the streets until one in the morning, when he was taken up by a patrol as a vagabond. The next morning he was claimed by his family, and has since been sent off to the country under charge of a medical attendant.

On Monday a fatal duel with swords was fought near Enghien, between two pupils of the Military School of Saint Cyr. One of them fell, and was carried to the house of the physician at Enghien, where he expired a few minutes after he was brought in. They were attended to the ground by two other pupils. The deceased is said to be the son of a colonel, and his adversary is only twenty years old.

Some of the Paris letters allude to an intention to dissolve the Lyons and Avignon Railway Company, the directors having unanimously resolved to wind up the affairs of the company, which resolution is to be presented to the proprietors at a general meeting to be called immediately. In the event of the contemplated dissolution taking place, the shareholders will have the whole of their deposits returned to them, as it is understood that the caution money will not be confiscated.

The *Patrie* announces that the eldest son of the Duke de Praslin (seventeen years of age) had committed suicide, in consequence of the misfortunes which had befallen his family. He shot himself with a pistol.

## ITALY.

The ferment in Italy has by no means subsided. On the contrary, letters from Leghorn, of the 23rd ult., state, that on the preceding day there was an *émeute*, produced by the popular excitement arising from the proceedings at Ferrara. The population assembled on the Piazza Grande, in Leghorn, and demanded, with loud cries, the formation of the National Guard. The Governor of the town repaired to the spot, and addressed the populace in conciliatory language; after which they were about to disperse peaceably, when a company of the Carabiniers presented itself, with the apparent intention of interfering. The people instantly rushed upon them, and a struggle ensued, in which the soldiers were speedily disarmed and trampled down. The greatest excitement then prevailed. Alarm was spread through the town. Proclamations of a violent kind were everywhere posted up, in which a change of Ministry was demanded, and the formation of a corps of volunteers to march against the Austrians who occupied Ferrara.

Accounts from Rome of the 21st of August state that the utmost enthusiasm and activity prevailed in that capital. The whole population was preparing to resist the aggressions of Austria. The Government had given orders for the dispatch of all the available troops at its disposal for the Legations, and had established a camp of observation at Forli. Count Pietro Ferretti, the brother of the Cardinal Secretary of State, had returned from his mission to Naples. It was said that several English ships of war were in view of Otranto, and were directing their course towards Ancona.

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

DEFEAT OF OUR TROOPS BY THE KAFFIRS.

Cape papers reached us yesterday. The dates are—Graham's Town, June 22; and Cape Town, June 26. The papers contain the important news of the repulse of our troops by the Kaffirs.

It appears that, on the 14th of June, the Dragoons were ordered from Fort Beaufort to Block Drift; the Engineers were put into garrison; and the drifts and passes guarded. On the morning of the 15th, a patrol or detachment, consisting of 50 of the 7th Dragoon Guards, 15 Cape Mounted Rifles, 100 of the 45th

Regiment, 20 of the Fingoe Levy, and about 70 of the Kaffir Police, mounted, in all 255 men, marched from Fort Hare upon Sandilla Great Place, near Burn's Hill, which they reached while it was yet dark. They dashed upon the place and seized about 100 head of cattle in the chief's own kraal and another's. Observing at this time some Kaffirs in a kloof or ravine at some distance, they sent forward a party to attack them. This party was repulsed, and the whole body, with the cattle, began to move back to Fort Hare. The Kaffirs, now become the assailants, speedily retook most of the cattle, and pursued the patrol some 12 or 15 miles, to within sight of Fort Hare.

The *South African Advertiser* says:—These statements are contained in two private letters, published in the *Graham's Town Journal*, one dated Fort Hare, 17th June, the other from Fort Beaufort. If they be correct, and there is no doubt of it, it appears that an expedition deliberately planned, and directed against the Great Place of the paramount chief of Kaffirland, has failed; the Kaffirs, though taken by surprise, gaining an easy and complete victory, as inspiring to them as it is depressing to the troops and other forces employed against them.

## THE OVERLAND INDIA MAIL.

The Overland Mail from India of the 19th July arrived on Tuesday. The dates are—from Bombay to the 19th of July, Calcutta to the 8th, and Madras to the 10th. The dates from China are not later than those which had previously reached us via Ceylon.

The general state of India is satisfactory.

The provinces of the Nizam, however, were not free from serious disturbances. The clamours of the soldiery there, occasioned by long arrears of pay, had so much increased as to cause the Prince urgently to repeat his appeal to our Resident for support. It was said that a force would be sent in that direction after the rains. There is at the same time a piece of information from Hyderabad affording matter for congratulation—namely, that the Nizam, acting under the advice of the British Resident, had abolished transit duties in his dominions.

The Scinde news is of comparatively little importance. Lady Napier has been ill of fever, but by the last accounts was much better, and able to resume her usual airings. A band of Thugs and poisoners from Bengal had been discovered at Kurrachee. These wretches were seized and thrown into gaol.

Tranquillity continued to prevail throughout the Punjab. The conspiracy which was talked of some time back had lost all importance. In the Hazareh, or mountain districts, the chiefs who had refused to submit to Gholab Singh had since been pacified by being again placed under the Government of Lahore.

Trade was depressed in Calcutta, and similar complaints are made from Bombay; but, in both places, they were cheered by brighter prospects from the favourable state of the crops.

## COUNTRY NEWS.

THE INTENDED PEEL DINNER AT NEWCASTLE.—Sir R. Peel has "respectfully" declined dining with the Newcastle Chamber of Commerce, as proposed.

MEMORIAL TO THE POET CRABBE.—A memorial to the poet Crabbe was placed in the church of Aldeburgh last week. It is a marble bust, rather larger than the natural size, standing upon a graceful plinth, also of marble, on which is sculptured a suspended and unstrung lyre of antique model. Beneath appears the following inscription:—"To the memory of George Crabbe, the poet of nature and truth, this monument is erected, by those who are desirous to record their admiration of his genius, in the place of his birth. Born Dec. 24, 1754; died Jan. 29, 1832."—The erection of the testimonial was first suggested by the vicar.

DEATH OF SAMUEL TURNER, ESQ., OF LIVERPOOL.—The Liverpool papers mention the death of Samuel Turner, Esq., for many years the Manager of the Branch Establishment of the Bank of England in that town. Mr. Turner was in his seventy-first year, and had been from early life connected with this great establishment; first in London, where he might be said to have been brought up in it; and in Liverpool, since the opening of the branch establishment, upwards of twenty years ago. With excellent business qualifications, Mr. Turner united a strong taste for literature and the fine arts. His death took place at Chalfont, Bucks, whilst on a visit to his sister. Mr. Turner has left a wife, but had no family.

SHAKESPEARE'S HOUSE.—On Wednesday evening, the meeting called by the Committee appointed at the former meeting of Monday week, was held at the Town Hall, Birmingham, in aid of the subscriptions for the purchase of Shakspeare's House at Stratford-upon-Avon, upwards of 1000 persons being present at the commencement of the proceedings. The Chair was taken by the Mayor, and there were also present W. Scholefield, Esq., M.P.; Rev. J. P. Lee, Rev. E. Illingsworth; C. H. Bracebridge, Esq.; Dr. Thomson, of Stratford-upon-Avon; Dr. Raphall, T. Lane, Esq., High Bailiff; Francis Clark, Esq.; Mr. E. Flower, of Stratford; Mr. George Edwards, Councillor Lucy, Mr. W. James, Mr. P. Holling, Mr. C. M. Evans, &c. & c. The business was opened by the Mayor, who expressed a hope that their efforts would issue in a powerful impetus being given to the Memorial in behalf of which they had assembled. He remarked that, although other towns had been appealed to, Birmingham had the honour of holding the first meeting on the subject. The assemblage was then addressed by Mr. Scholefield, M.P., Dr. Raphall, Rev. E. Illingsworth, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Lane, Mr. Lucy, Mr. Bracebridge, Mr. Holling, and Mr. Mason, and resolutions were passed unanimously in aid of the effort for the purchase of Shakspeare's House, by active co-operation with the Stratford Committee.

## FLOATING OF THE "GREAT BRITAIN" STEAM-SHIP

She is off! She is off! The noble bark  
Floats freely o'er the wave;  
Freed from the ledge where Ruin  
Stark.

Menaced to plough her grave.  
Long did the wild winds round her  
rage,  
And high the billows toss'd,  
But skill and energy can save,  
When every hope seems lost.

## OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

COUNT ALFRED DE MONTESQUIOU.

THE family of Montesquiou is one of very ancient and highly honourable descent in France. Count Alfred de Montesquiou, whose melancholy death we here record, was a much-respected member of this house. He was the brother of Count Anatole de Montesquiou, Chevalier d'Honneur to the Queen of the French, and uncle to M. de Montesquiou, Deputy for the Department of the Sarthe. Count Alfred had married the daughter of General Peyron, and was the father of eight children. He was in the enjoyment of all the advantages of rank and fortune; nevertheless, on the morning of Friday, the 27th ultimo, he stabbed himself to death in his sleeping apartment, at his residence, on the Faubourg St. Germaine. No satisfactory reason can yet be given for this terrible suicide, which forms a kind of minor tragedy to that of the wicked Duke de Praslin, and his unfortunate wife.

THE HONOURABLE MRS. JOCELYN.

Two years have only intervened between the marriage of this young lady, and her death. The latter melancholy event occurred at Tollymore Park, on the 26th ult. Mrs. Jocelyn, who had just completed her 25th year, was daughter of Major-General Sir Neil Douglas, K.C.B., Commander of the Forces in Scotland—a gallant and highly distinguished officer, who, following the footsteps of his illustrious ancestors—

And Douglasses were heroes every age—

commanded the celebrated Highland Regiment, the 79th, at Waterloo. The branch of the noble House of Angus, from which he descends, was known as that of "Cruxton and Stobbs." Cecilia, Sir Neil's second daughter, the lady whose early death we record, married, 19th February, 1845, the Hon. Augustus George Frederick Jocelyn, Captain in the 6th Dragoon Guards, youngest son of Robert, late Earl of Roden, by his second wife; and half-brother, consequently, of the present Earl.

SIR RICHARD DOBSON, KT.

THIS gentleman, descended from a branch of an ancient Westmoreland family, was born in 1744, entered the navy as a surgeon in 1797, and, after a service of seven and twenty years, was appointed Chief of the Medical Staff of Greenwich Hospital, with a salary of £500 a year. In 1814 he was nominated a Knight of St. Vladimir, in 1815 received the insignia of the Order of the Dannebrog, and in 1831 was knighted by his own Sovereign. Sir Richard married, first, in 1811, Miss Alsten, second daughter of the late William Alsten, Esq., of Rochester; and secondly, in 1824, Miss Purves, third daughter of Sir Alexander Purves, Bart., of Purves Hall. He died at his residence, in Gloucester-place, Portman-square, on Wednesday, the 1st inst.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE LONDON, BRIGHTON, AND SOUTH COAST RAIL-WAY.—On Tuesday an inquiry was gone into before C. J. Cartar, Esq., at the Castle Inn, Brockley, near Lewisham, touching the death of Morris Bailey, a farm labourer, who was found dead on the line of railway between New Cross and Sydenham, his hand being cut off, and his head crushed. The deceased was discovered about seven o'clock on Sunday morning, extended parallel with the outer rail, and must have been dead several hours. It was supposed that he was lying by the line asleep when the occurrence took place. Verdict—"Found dead but that there was no evidence to prove by what means death had ensued."

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—An inquest was held on Tuesday on John Hincksman, Esq., a gentleman of considerable property, residing in Queen Ann-street, London, who met his death on the North-Western Railway, at Sudbury, on Monday night last. The inquest was held in one of the rooms of the Sudbury station, T. Wakley, Esq., presiding. The facts of the case appeared to be as follows:—On Monday night the unfortunate gentleman having been dining with some friends in the neighbourhood, proceeded to the station at Sudbury, for the purpose of returning to town by the train which leaves Aylesbury at a quarter before seven in the evening. It appeared, however, that the deceased gentleman crossed from the up to the down line, and, hearing a train approaching the up line, he proceeded hastily across to reach the platform, believing it to be the train for which he had been waiting, and which stopped for passengers at this station. Such was not, however, the fact; it was the express train from Newcastle, which performs the distance at a very accelerated speed. At the time of passing the Sudbury station, the train was moving at the rate of at least forty miles per hour, the engine being driven by a very steady man, named William Howard, and the guard, Henry Roots. The engine being propelled at such a velocity, came in contact with the unfortunate gentleman, the buffers of which struck him and carried him a distance of at least sixty yards, and the greater part of the wheels of the carriages passed over his body. As soon as the engine-driver was aware of the accident the engine was reversed, and the breaks applied to stop the train. Having proceeded to the spot, they discovered the remains of the body, which was mutilated in a manner almost too shocking for description, portions of it lying in all directions, his intestines crushed, and portions of his brains adhering to the wheels of the engine. The Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death."

A TRADESMAN COMMITTED FOR ARSON.—A long inquiry took place last Saturday before Mr. Payne, the City Coroner, at the George Tavern, Beech-street, Barbican, respecting the cause of a fire which took place a few days previously, on the premises of Mr. L. Hall, fancy box-maker, 364, Beech-street. The evidence was of such a nature as to implicate Mr. Hall in the charge of arson, and the jury gave a verdict, "That the house was wilfully set on fire by the tenant, Leopold Hall."—The Coroner at once made out his warrant for the committal of the accused.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT FROM LIGHTNING NEAR LINCOLN.—An event of appalling character happened near Lincoln on Sunday. Soon after two o'clock a dense mass of black clouds to the southward of the city indicated a storm, and at three o'clock the peals of thunder were deafening. It occasioned no material injury in Lincoln, but the electric fluid struck the parish church at Welton during divine service, and killed or severely injured several of the congregation. One person lost his life, and eight others, five of whom were women, were shockingly hurt. The church, which has sustained considerable damage, is adjacent to the village of Welton, to the eastward of the north road between Carleton and Scampton, and about five miles distant from Lincoln. Five women were injured. Their names are Mary Baldwin, Eliza Baldwin (sister), Mary Abraham, Sarah Taylor, and Ann Rippingale. Their faces were blackened and burnt. A boy, of the name of Oglesby, living in the neighbouring village of Scotberno, was discovered in another part of the building with his clothes on fire, and nearly consumed. Several others suffered similar injury. A respected old parishioner, Mr. J. Brownlow, a wheelwright, aged 68, was discovered lying at the bottom of his pew, immediately beneath one of the chandeliers, quite dead. There were no marks of wounds or abrasion about the body. The buttons of his waistcoat were melted; the right leg of his trousers was torn down, and his coat literally burnt off. His wife was in the same pew with him, but escaped injury. The lightning first struck the south-eastern pinnacle of the tower, and threw down a portion of the battlement. In the course of Monday afternoon, a Coroner's inquest was held on the remains of the deceased, and a verdict in accordance with the nature of his death was returned. The other parties who were injured are said to be progressing favourably.

## FATAL EXPLOSION ON BOARD THE "CRICKET" STEAMER.

IN great part of our impression last week we gave an account of a frightful accident which took place about half-past nine o'clock on the morning of yesterday week on board the *Cricket* steamer, one of the boats for some time past running between the City and the West-end at the fare of one halfpenny.

We now recapitulate the chief incidents mentioned in our account, and add such additional circumstances as have since transpired, together with a report of the commencement of the inquest.

The *Cricket* had already made two passages between the Adelphi Pier and London Bridge, and was lying off the former landing place at the moment the accident occurred.

It appears that the vessel was about to leave the pier for London-bridge, having on board somewhere about 150 passengers, all quietly seated, when, without the least previous intimation to those on deck, a sudden report was heard, followed by an instantaneous explosion. Immediately the vessel, which had to that moment been almost filled with persons, was nearly cleared—some of the passengers being actually blown up into the air, falling into the water—others had jumped over the sides, and were struggling in the mud that lined the shore—and but a few, awe-stricken and dumbfounded, remained in the uninjured part of the boat.

The explosion took place in what is usually termed the after part of the vessel, namely, in a direction opposite to the course she was about to steer. The fore-deck remains comparatively uninjured; and the passengers, therefore, in that part of the boat were in comparative safety.

One part of the boiler was hurled 100 feet towards the Watermen's Adelphi pier, at the bottom of George-street, and another portion of it in a contrary direction towards Waterloo-bridge.

Exaggerated reports were spread of the number of persons killed. It amounts to five; but a great many were hurt. At least forty or fifty persons were carried upon people's backs, because they were themselves unable to walk. The appearance of those unfortunate persons was most appalling. Their faces and clothes were quite wet and black, and the frightful appearance was increased by the manner in which they were disfigured with blood and wounds.

The force of the explosion may be estimated from the fact, that it perceptibly shook the houses in the Strand as far as Waterloo Bridge.

The following is a list of those who have lost their lives:—

Mr. John Blunt, single, watchmaker, of 2, Shaftesbury-terrace, Vauxhall-bridge-road. He was going to his daily employment at Messrs. Frodsham's, Change-alley, Cornhill. He was about twenty-two years of age, and, it is stated, was about to be married.

John Littleton, age about thirty-two, of 6, Bloomsbury-street, Broad-street, St. Giles's, costermonger. He has left a wife and family. At the time of the accident he was going to Billingsgate, to purchase fish, and had 2s. or 2s. upon him, but only a few pence were found in his pocket after the accident.

George Shute, age about thirty, costermonger, of Driver's-buildings, Mile-end. He has left a wife and several children. This man was, we believe, in company with Holls, who was taken to the hospital severely bruised on the breast, and who afterwards identified the body.

Thomas Shute, age about fourteen, call-boy on board the *Cricket*, of Rose-street, Covent-garden. He was boiling some coffee, it is stated, at the stove in the after-cabin, and as the boiler swept through this part of the vessel, and almost gutted the cabin, it is wonderful how he escaped being killed upon the spot. He was brought to the hospital insensible, and suffering from several fractures of the skin. The poor lad, at first, rallied a little, but died about two o'clock on Friday (last week), the extent of his injuries, from the first, forbidding all hopes of his recovery.

John Buckley, aged nineteen, single, engineer, of 9, King-street, Covent-garden.

The discovery and immediate identification of Buckley's remains were as singular as they were afflicting. In the crowd at the bottom of Arundel-street, who were looking upon the river, and watching the various boats upon its surface which were dragging for bodies, was a woman, whose quick eye caught the shape of something which was being lifted from the water by a man who was groping among the mud on the opposite shore. With a mother's presentiment she exclaimed, "That is my son!" and, as fast as her agitation would permit, she hurried round to the other side of the bridge. The body was carried to the vaults of St. John's Church, in the Waterloo-road, where the poor woman arrived, overwhelmed by her emotions, and immediately recognised the features of her son, who had left his home, No. 9, King-street, Covent Garden, only a few minutes before the explosion took place. His employment was that of engineer to a steam-printing machine.

The following is a list of the sufferers who were conveyed to the Charing-cross Hospital:—

Virgo Birks.—This poor man had sustained a comminuted fracture of the right knee joint, by which the main artery was cut, and in the course of the afternoon it was deemed necessary by the medical men to resort to amputation.

Benjamin Reep, of 78, Dudley-street, fish-salesman—compound fracture of the jaw. This unfortunate man has sustained injuries of a more severe nature than any of his fellow-sufferers with the exception of Virgo Birks.

George Willets, 7, Meard's-street, Soho, carver—severely bruised on various parts of the body.

John Holls, Love-lane, Mile-end, costermonger—much bruised about the breast, but not seriously injured.

Mr. Solomon Cahn, merchant, of Fenchurch street—right ankle severely bruised.

Henry Rowland, Warwick-street. Earl-street, Kensington, fishmonger—very severely bruised about the face and body.

James Sisman, chief messenger to the London Assurance Company—very severe cuts on the right temple and under the left eye; slight wound on the upper part of the left hip: and frightfully bruised about the arms, legs, and thighs, but has sustained no dangerous injury.

William Ayre, 60, Poland-street, Oxford-street, tailor—back injured.

William Kay, who described himself as a "proflit"—numerous very serious bruises about the head and face.

William Redgrave, a lad about 13 years of age, the son of a tailor, living in Tottenham-court-road—upper lip much cut, and severe bruises on the leg. The father and mother of this boy were on board the steam-boat with him at the time of the accident, but fortunately escaped with some very slight bruises.

William Rutt, of 118, Long Acre, lately in business as a cheesemonger in Jersey—back much bruised, and severe injury of the left ankle.

The Rev. Mr. Smith, the chaplain of the St. Martin's workhouse, with his lady, were among the persons who had paid their fare to go to London-bridge. Mrs. Smith had got on board, and Mr. Smith was on the pier about to step on board when the explosion took place. Mrs. Smith was scalded by the steam, and was blown into the water, but was fortunately rescued. Mr. Smith escaped unharmed, the explosion having taken place as he was in the act of stepping on the lighter in order to get on board the boat.

The engineer's statement is to the following effect:—He says he was in the engine-room at the time, and that he did not recover his consciousness until he found himself lying on the pier! There must, to all appearances, have been considerable neglect. We are informed that the sister of the unfortunate boy, at the time the disaster happened, was waiting on the pier with his breakfast.

It is not a little singular that the *Cricket* was condemned, together with the *Ant* and *Bee*, more than six months since, by Mr. Portwine, in his work on the "Steam Engine," &c., in the following plain language:—"There are three vessels on the Thames, called the *Ant*, *Bee*, and *Cricket*—boats which profess to work with low-pressure condensing engines. The public is not aware that they are working at 36lb. on the square inch. The engines are by Joyce, two of 15-horse power. The fuel consumed is only about 2 cwt. 1 quarter per hour. These are the penny boats (now halfpenny) plying from Hungerford to London-bridge, and working at high pressure; they may when out of order blow up their decks and the myriads of passengers they are burthened with."—P. 58. This extract was published by an engineer six months since, and time has too fatally proved Mr. Portwine's prediction.

Messrs. Joyce have written to say that the boilers of the *Cricket* were not their manufacture. The machinery was by Messrs. Joyce, but the boilers were made by Mr. Trotman of the Borough.

## THE INQUEST.

The inquest on view of the bodies of the unfortunate persons killed by the explosion was commenced on Monday morning, at the board-room of the St. Martin's-in-the-Fields Workhouse, before Mr. Bedford, coroner for the City of Westminster.

A jury of seventeen gentlemen was sworn, and proceeded to view the bodies of the deceased persons, three of whom were lying at the workhouse, and the other two at the Charing-cross Hospital. The names of the deceased were Thomas Shute, John Littleton, John Blunt, George Shute, and John Buckley.

Mr. Montague Chambers, barrister, attended the inquiry on behalf of the steam-boat company.

The evidence as to the identity of the deceased persons was then proceeded with.

Thomas Shute, of 11, Rose-street, Covent-garden, fishmonger, said the deceased Thomas Shute was his child. The deceased was fourteen years old last October, and was call-boy on board the *Cricket*. He had been about five months in continuous service, of which three weeks were passed on board the *Cricket*, and the previous time on board the *Ant*. The deceased never made any complaint to witness with regard to his employment, and appeared perfectly satisfied with his birth.

John Lynd Blunt, of No. 2, Trellick-terrace, Vauxhall-bridge-road, watchmaker, examined: The deceased John Blunt was his son, and was 23 years of age. He was a watchmaker.

Catherine Littleton, of No. 6, Bloomsbury-street, identified the body of John Littleton, as that of her husband. He was thirty-three years of age, and was a hawker.

George Shute, of James-street, Mile-end, painter and glazier, examined: The deceased George Shute was his only son. He was 24½ years old, and has left a wife and two children.

Henry Noble, of 104, Golden-lane, St. Luke's, stated that he was an engineer, and that the deceased John Buckley was his nephew. He was 18 years of age, and was in witness employment.

Mr. James Hocken, of 23, Maddox-street, Hanover-square, tailor, examined: He said he went on board about twenty-five minutes past nine o'clock. He sat in the stern part of the boat, about one-third back from the paddle-box. He was there about five minutes, and was rather surprised that the boat was longer than usual without leaving the pier. There were about 200 persons on board. The boat was perfectly quiet, when he felt a sudden shudder or quiver, and presently after the explosion took place. The whole flew apparently into a thousand pieces, taking the direction of the hinder part of the boat. The seat on which he sat was blown from under him. A parcel which he had in his hand, and his hat, were blown away, and he was wounded on the hip and shoulder. The steam struck him on the face like a slap from a hand. When the steam had cleared away, he found that all the persons he had noticed on the seats had been carried away—some were hanging by the sides; and he assisted a lady who had called loudly to him for assistance. The *Echo*, a Richmond boat, came from the middle of the river, and took some of the passengers off. A gentleman with a white head cried out that his leg had been broken. He looked down into the cabin, and heard a noise like the howling of a dog. Assisted to get a man from amongst the timbers whose mouth and forehead were bleeding. He was doubled up like a drunken man. There was no one on board connected with the company to render assistance. Saw neither the captain nor the engineer on board. Examined the place from which the boiler had been carried, but found no there. He apprehended that the boat was waiting for the captain, as it was ready to start, and had its full complement of passengers.

Mr. George Martin Young examined: Is house-surgeon at Charing-cross Hospital. The deceased Thomas Shute was admitted to the hospital about half-past nine in the morning of Friday. He was in a state of collapse. There was a flesh wound on his left cheek, and a small cut on the top of the head; and, from the symptoms, they judged that there was a fracture of the skull. He never rallied, and died between two and three o'clock. There was pressure on the brain; but, whether that was caused by blood or by a fracture, they could not tell from external examination. Had no doubt but that death was caused by the violence received on the head. The deceased George Shute was also brought to the hospital about the same hour. He had a wound on the right side of the head, which was not sufficient to cause death, and witness supposed that he died from drowning, but could not say positively without examination.

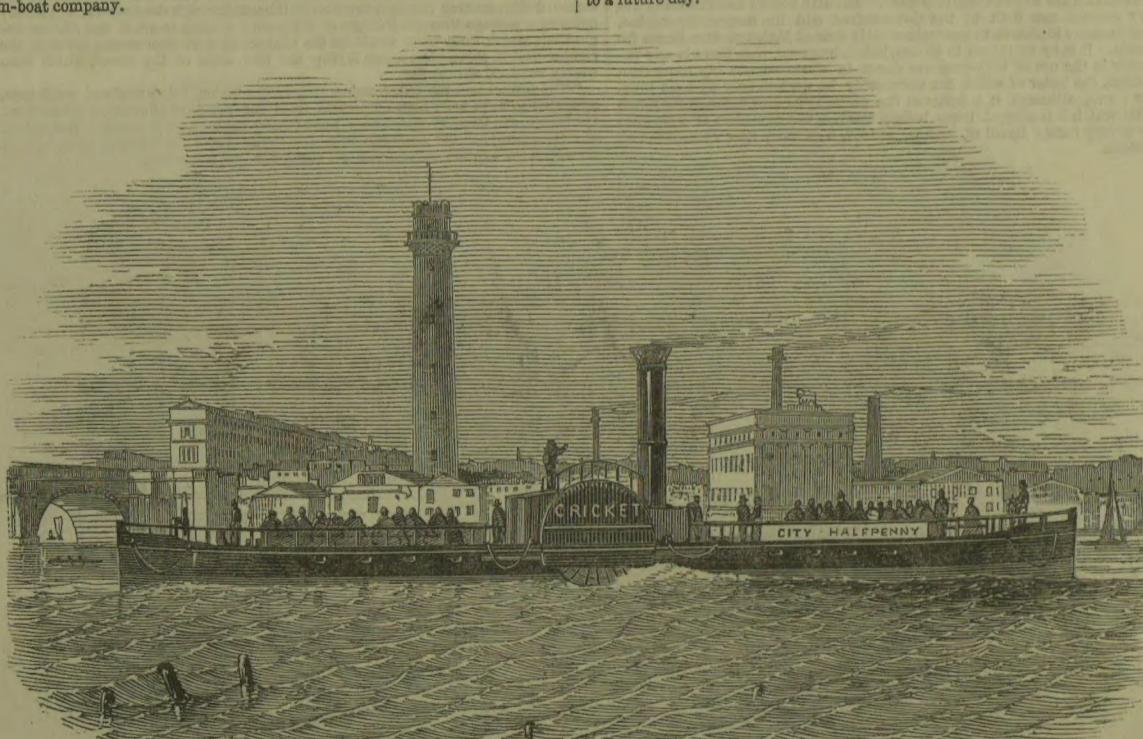
William Chappell, residing at No. 34, Caroline-street, waterman, stated that between nine and ten o'clock on Friday morning, while he was standing on Somerset House causeway, he saw the explosion of the *Cricket* steamer. He, with his mate, immediately manned the boat and proceeded to the scene of the explosion. During their passage they picked up nine hats, and shortly after picked up the body of Littleton, with whom they rowed nearly ashore, and Maddox (the last witness but one) then took the body from the head of the boat up to the post-office on the pier. Witness immediately jumped out of the boat on to the pier, where he saw a surgeon, who stated that the man was dead. He then returned to the boat, and just at "flood" he, with his mate, by the use of grappling irons, found the body of a person quite dead, since identified as the body of Mr. Blunt. Witness took charge of the property of deceased, which amounted to thirty shillings in gold, ten shillings in silver, a silver watch, gold chain, and penknife.

The money and articles were produced by the witness and handed to the father of the deceased.

Mr. John Nathan Bainbridge examined: Is surgeon to the workhouse. Saw the bodies of Littleton and Blunt soon after they were brought to the workhouse on Friday morning. He examined the bodies externally, and he could find no mark of violence on Blunt, except a slight abrasion of the skin on the nose, and he believed therefore that his death was caused by drowning. The appearances were those usually attending death by drowning. Littleton had a considerable wound on the right temple. He had also some bruises on the arms, but not sufficient to cause death. Cannot say whether the wound on the head was sufficient to cause death, without making an examination. He also examined the body of Buckley. The right thigh was broken, and the fracture must have taken place before death, as the limb was drawn up considerably by the contraction of the muscles. There was also some effusion of blood under the scalp, and some appearance of a scald upon the forehead.

Mr. Chambers said he wished, on the part of the company, to state, that the captain of the *Cricket*, the engineer, the stoker, and the superintendent of the vessel, were in the room, and ready to give all the information in their power, relating to the accident.

The Coroner said he was of opinion that the evidence of some scientific gentleman should be obtained, previous to hearing the evidence of parties employed in the vessel. He should make a communication to the Secretary of State on the subject; and he, therefore, thought at present the inquiry should be adjourned to a future day.



## THE "CRICKET" STEAM-BOAT EXPLOSION.



THE "CRICKET" STEAM-BOAT EXPLOSION.—THE SEARCH FOR THE BODIES.

passed, is considerably more injured than the opposite. The opening made at the stern of the vessel appears to be also on the right side of the rudder. The whole floor of the engine-room is literally covered with fragments of the broken parts and the smaller and more delicate parts of the machinery. The Jury remained on the spot for about half an hour, during which time every facility was afforded by the servants of the company to enable them to view the various portions of the wreck.

An examination of the wreck has been made by Mr. Elijah Galloway, civil engineer, of Buckingham-street, whose report is as follows:—

"There are two boilers abreast of each other, one of which (the starboard boiler) exploded. The boilers are tubular, the fire being placed in a large tube, say of three or four feet in diameter within the boiler, and therefore surrounded by water. The flame or heated air is returned to the front of the boiler by about 60 or 70 tubes of about two inches diameter, and it is the use of these small tubes that gives the boilers the name of 'tubular.' The chief advantage of these boilers is, that a larger heating surface is obtained in a smaller space than when the old fashioned fires were exclusively used. Tubular boilers have recently obtained very general use both in the Government and the mercantile marine, though not in many instances to generate what is termed high-pressure steam for steam-vessels. It is by no means to be concluded, however, that there is any peculiar danger in the use of high-pressure steam in steam-vessels any more than in locomotives, the latter of which can necessarily be worked only by high-pressure steam; and, although it is believed the ordinary pressure generally much exceeds that which it is alleged these boilers worked, the explosion of a locomotive boiler is very rarely heard of, and is, indeed, a casualty now considered all but impossible.

"The explosion seems to have commenced by the separation of the front plate (into which the fire-tube and the smaller pipes are fixed) from what is termed the shell of the boiler. The dome, which is a sort of reservoir placed over the shell, is also separated, and has not yet been found, although means have been taken to recover it; because, without it, it is difficult, and perhaps impossible, to ascertain whether the dome was blown off by the force of the steam or separated by the flight of the boiler towards the stern. It appears evident that, upon the separation of the front plate, the shell of the boiler flew away from the front plate and tubes in one piece, like the shell of a rocket, the front plate and tubes being propelled in an opposite direction against the framing of the engine, as is demonstrated by considerable indentations on the front plate, and corresponding with similar marks on the framing of the machinery. But for the interruption thus given to the progress of the front and tubes, the fore-cabin and the passengers on the fore-deck must have shared a similar fate to those on the after-deck. The progress of the shell of the boiler is clearly shown to have been in a direction nearly aft, or rather taking a course slightly inclined from the starboard to the larboard side, cutting through the iron bulkhead, through the timbers, and finally opening a passage through the run of the vessel, cutting most, if not all, the angle irons which form what would be the timbers of a wooden vessel, dividing the rudder-post in three pieces, and laying the two sides of the vessel, which were nearly vertical, almost flat.

"The funnel and the outer casing around the boiler, being made of weak iron, appeared to have been blown upwards from the pressure of escaped steam from the boiler, the force of which they were totally inadequate to resist. The funny, and the casing carried away the bridge between the paddle-boxes, or gangways on which the captain stands, and fell alongside into the water.

"The small tubes of the boiler are comparatively uninjured, only two of them being slightly bent, and this most likely arose from the forcible detachment of the front plate. The tubes of the upper range are found to be covered with the usual incrustation or deposit from the water. Their condition indicates that the accident did not arise from any lack of the proper supply of water in the boiler."

We believe that a saving of not less than one ton of coals per day is gained by the description of engines used on board the *Cricket*, *Ant*, and *Bee* steam-boats. The boilers of the *Cricket* were three-eighths of an inch thick in every part except the steam-chest or dome, which was five-sixths of an inch thick. The tube-plates were three quarters of an inch thick. The boiler case was 5 feet 6 inches long, the fire-tube 2 feet 6 inches, and the smaller tubes one-eighth of an inch thick.

It is satisfactory to state that, on Thursday morning, in answer to a question from the Magistrate at the Thames Police-office, Inspector Falkner, of the Thames Police, stated that, although the utmost vigilance had been exercised, and the police had carefully and unremittingly dragged the river in the immediate vicinity of the accident, and in other places where bodies were likely to have been carried by the current, yet that no fresh corpse had been found; and it is therefore to be hoped that the extent of the fatal consequences of the explosion has now been ascertained.

The answer to inquiries at Charing-cross Hospital on Thursday morning, with respect to the unfortunate individuals who were injured by the explosion, was, that they were all going on very favourably, and that most of them would be able to leave the hospital in a short time.



WRECK OF THE "CRICKET," AT LOW WATER.

THE SHEFFIELD ATHENÆUM AND  
MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.

THE Sheffield Athenæum and Mechanics' Institution was established in 1832, when a building fund was commenced, in order to enable the Institution to erect a building suitable to its wants. In the year 1839, a sufficient sum was raised by an exhibition of works of art and nature to purchase a site; and, in the year 1845, an additional sum was raised by a bazaar. This has been increased by private subscriptions and donations, so as to be sufficient, at the beginning of this year, to warrant the Committee taking steps for erecting a new building. In April, they resolved on carrying into effect the plans prepared by Mr. G. Alexander, of Bedford-square, London; and the works have since been let to builders, within the estimated amount of £4500.

The first stone of the new building was laid on Wednesday; all the parties immediately interested met at twelve o'clock, at the Council Hall, and proceeded to the site in the following order:—

Beadles, Contractors (with the tools).  
Committee of the Institution.  
Mr. Taylor, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Fowler,  
Managing Director, Architect, Secretary, with Vase  
with Trowel. with Plans. of printed and other  
President of the Institution, The Earl of ARUNDEL The Mayor.  
The Master Cutler and Vice-Presidents.  
Corporation.  
Gentry.  
Beadles, &c.

The Earl of Arundel having laid the stone in due form, addressed the assembly, explaining the advantages of good education, as tending to increase the knowledge and practice of the duties due to God and man. The President of the Institution also made a few appropriate remarks. In the evening there was a *soirée*, which was attended by a great number of the most respectable persons of the town and neighbourhood, at which Lord Arundel also presided. Many good speeches were delivered, and the evening was enlivened by occasional songs. The whole gave the greatest satisfaction, and reflected much credit on Mr. Taylor, the Managing Director, and the rest of the Committee who assisted him.

The following details of the edifice are from the *Sheffield and Rotherham Independent*:—

"The windows of the basement story will light a series of apartments ten feet high. At the corner of Surrey-street and Tudor-street, on the basement story, will be a Gymnasium, 42 feet 4 inches by 23 feet 3 inches. The rest of this floor will be occupied by rooms for the persons in charge of the building.

"The Principal Entrance in Surrey-street opens to a lofty passage, going through the centre of the building, and ending at the foot of the staircase. The first room on the left hand, over the gymnasium, at the angle of the two streets, will be the News Room, lighted on two sides, and measuring 42 feet 8 inches, by 23 feet 3 inches. Behind this, with a window to Tudor-street, will be a Board Room, 23 feet 3 inches by 13½ feet. These two rooms will occupy that side of the building on the ground floor: it is proposed that they shall be separated by folding-doors, so that they may be thrown into one when required for the purposes of a conversazione, or other purposes requiring a large handsome room. On the right of the principal entrance is the Coffee Room, 28 feet 11 inches by 24 feet 3 inches, the windows fronting to Surrey-street. Behind this, and lighted by one large window looking into a small area at the eastern corner of the building, will be the Library, 24 feet 3 inches by 22 feet 2 inches. Between the library and the coffee room will be a narrow staircase descending to the kitchen on the basement story, and ascending to the lecture room on the first floor. The one will be a great advantage to the attendants on the coffee room, and the other will give the lecturer private access to the rostrum in the lecture room. The rooms on the ground floor will be 15 feet high.

"We ascend now by a convenient staircase from the junction of the main passage with the side entrance to the Lecture Room. This is the prime room of the whole building. It will occupy the whole area of the first floor, excepting the deduction necessary for the staircase from the side entrance to the story above. Its height will be 26½ feet, and its measurement 60 feet by 56 feet 6 inches. The lecturer's place will be in the centre of the blank wall towards the Music Hall, with his face towards Tudor-street. The greater part of the floor will be flat, in order that the room may be conveniently used for *soirées*, balls, &c. But the part most distant from the lecturer will be raised. The seats upon the floor will accommodate about 800 persons. There will be provision for some 200 more in a light and elegant gallery on the Tudor-street side.

"The top story will contain seven Class Rooms, each 12 feet high, and each measuring in length 24½ feet."

## VAUXHALL GARDENS.

If London is a desert just at present, Vauxhall Gardens certainly form the oasis; for we do not yet discover any perceptible falling off in the company, in spite of all the attractions that grouse, partridges, sea-bathing, Baden, and Boulogne, are now offering. Perhaps there may be many who think that a view of Venice may be obtained just as well from the fire-work gallery as from the Grand Canal, with the advantage of going to your own bed afterwards, and getting up

the next morning in London, with a great saving of time and money; and certainly the Ducal Palace is never enveloped in the showers of golden fire that pour down upon it so brilliantly at Vauxhall.

One or two new performers have made their *début* since we last noticed Vauxhall. Mdlle. Valentine is a pretty young lady who manages a very beautiful horse in the style of Mdlles. Caroline and Pauline Cuzent, amongst other things making it describe a circle with one fore leg for the centre. Little Ameson twists in an out the rounds of a ladder, like an eel, whilst it is balanced upon his father's chin; and M. Rochez, the clown, does more wonderful feats with two chairs than we had imagined such ordinary articles of furniture could have suggested.

Mr. Gale made a very successful ascent one evening last week; having apparently succeeded Mr. Gypson, as night-aeronaut to the Gardens. The display of fireworks from the car, of which we have given an illustration, was very magnificent, and was hailed with loud acclamations by the spectators. Mr. Gale was accompanied by Mr. Coxwell, who was in the "Albert" balloon the night of the accident.

The benefit of Mr. Robert Wardell, the proprietor, is fixed for Monday next. This gentleman has shown such spirit and indefatigability in procuring constant novelty for the Vauxhall visitors, that his claims upon them are rather more than those of an ordinary *beneficierare*. For several years the company at VAUXHALL has not been so select as during the present season, and this is to be attributed to his excellent arrangements.

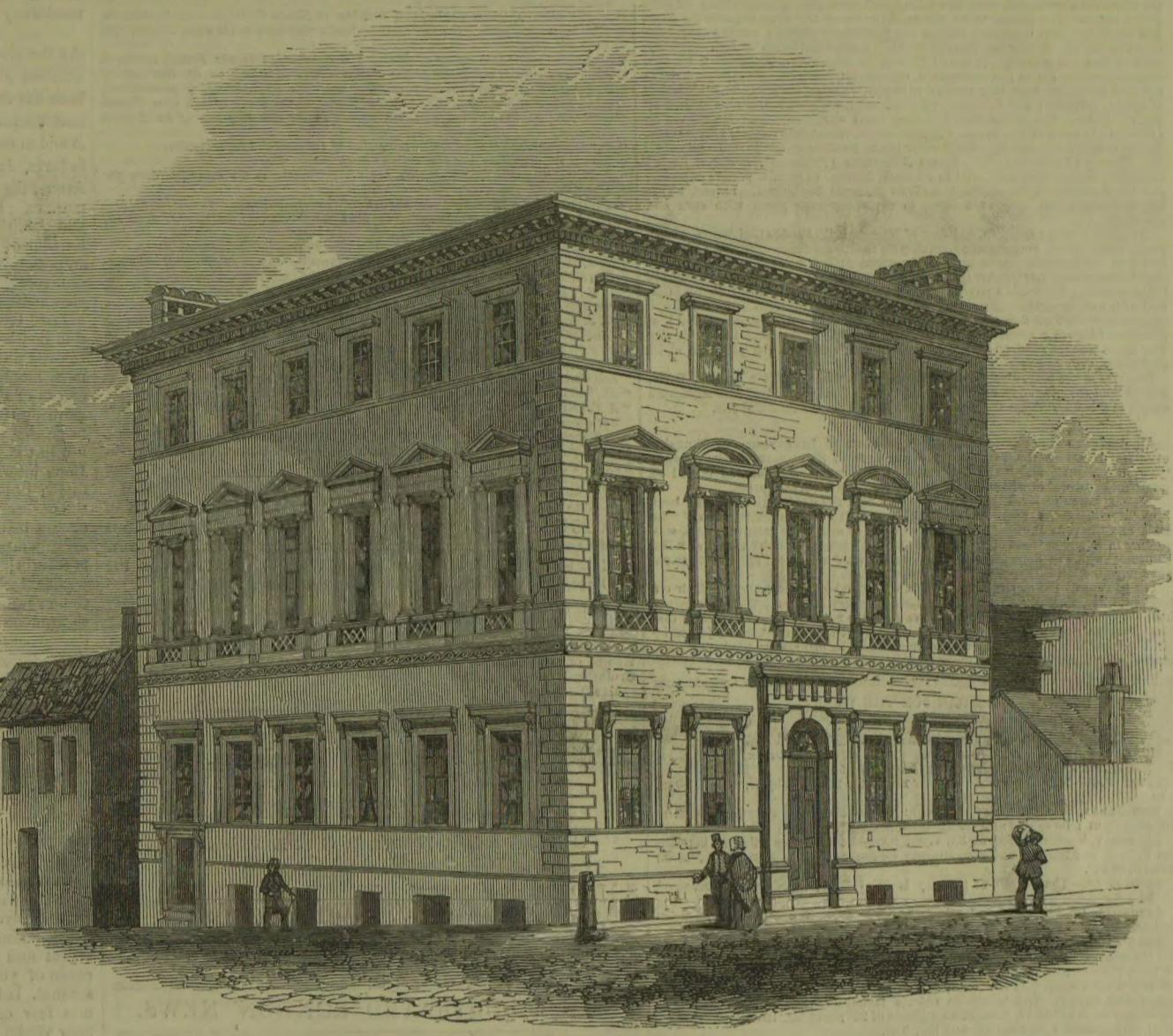
## THE THEATRES.

## MARYLEBONE.

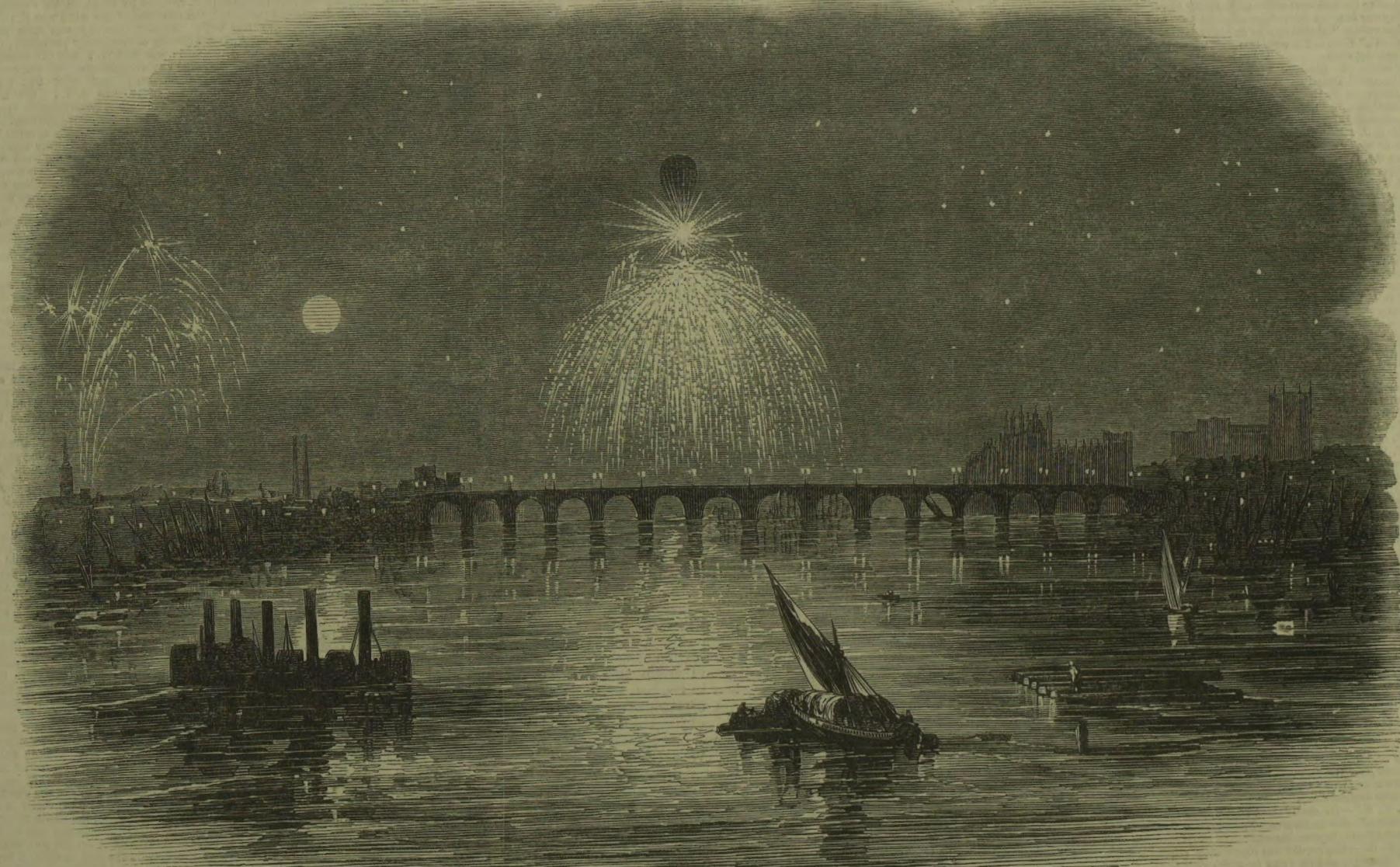
The Marylebone Theatre opened on Monday evening, for the season, under the direction of Mrs. Warner, for the purpose of performing the legitimate drama, under a management similar to that of Sadler's Wells; and the play chosen for the inauguration was "The Winter's Tale," of Shakespeare. The choice was judiciously made; for, the object being to direct the taste of the audience into a better channel, it might not have been so well to have commenced with a five-act play of heavier action.

Mrs. Warner has collected an excellent working company, principally from the provinces; for we find, by the names on the bill, she has drafted her *troupe* from the theatres of Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Exeter, Weymouth, Bath, and Bristol; whilst Mr. Graham is the leading tragedian, and Mr. H. Webb (of whom we had occasion to speak very favourably, at the Surrey, some few weeks ago) is the principal low comedian. Every department of the theatre is evidently under a careful and intelligent direction. The scenery is excellent; there is a very compact orchestra: the costumes are correct and new; and all the stage management deserving of high praise.

Of Mrs. Warner's *Hermione*, we have before expressed our opinion. It is, in our thinking, her greatest part; and she did well, for this reason also, to commence with it. Her acting, in the trial scene was marked by the most finished



THE SHEFFIELD ATHENÆUM AND MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.



BALLOON AND DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS, FROM VAUXHALL GARDENS.

delicacy and grace; and the consummate art shown in her pose as the Statue, both in the dignity of the attitude, and the exquisite manner in which the drapery had been arranged, drew down loud and continued applause from all parts of the house. The effect, when she quickly turned her head towards the King, was startling. Mr. Graham's *Leontes* was judiciously played; but the excellence of his acting was somewhat marred by his frequent imitation of Mr. Macready, both in tone and gesture. It would be well for him to trust entirely to his own original powers, for he has evidently a refined intelligence. Next to these leading characters, we were best pleased with Mr. Webb's *Autolycus*, which was full of quaint humour; and the *Shepherd* could not have been better played than by Mr. G. Cooke. The scenes in which they acted were excellent. Mr. G. Vining (*Florizel*), is a son of Mr. James Vining. He is, we should expect, very young; but he bids fair to make a good performer in the line known as "juvenile tragedy." Mr. Harvey (*Antigonus*), Mr. James Johnstone (*Polizenes*), and Mr. Tindell (*Camillo*), each contributed, and in no small degree, to form a perfect *ensemble*; and Mr. J. Saunders was as simple a *Clown* as could be desired. Indeed, where the characters had only a few lines to say, they were given with care and propriety.

Come we now to the ladies, and first of Miss Angell (*Perdita*), of whom we expect much. She is young and graceful, with most expressive eyes and a pleasing delivery. It was stated to be her first appearance; but we cannot help thinking that we have seen her before in London, at some theatre. However, this is of little moment; she made a charming *Perdita*, and had every reason to be satisfied with her reception. Mrs. Tyrrell (*Paulina*) has an excellent voice, and spoke every word set down for her distinctly and with good emphasis. And Miss Saunders (*Mopsa*) is a smart little actress, who will be very useful in the farces. The house was crowded, and the applause, both throughout the play and at its conclusion, very hearty and spontaneous.

Previous to the play, Mrs. Warner spoke an address, written by Mr. Serle, amidst loud cheering. In conclusion, the speculation of playing the legitimate drama at the Marylebone Theatre promises to be a most successful one.

AN AMATEUR PERFORMANCE is to take place at LIVERPOOL, on Thursday evening, in aid of the funds for the purchase of Shakespeare's House, when "Twelfth Night" and "The Taming of the Shrew" will both be played by gentlemen, several of whom are connected with the Liverpool press.

An adaptation of Mr. Planché's "Fair One with the Golden Locks," has been brought out at the Porte St. Martin Theatre, in Paris, under the title of "La Belle aux Cheveux Dorés." The *mise-en-scène* is said to be most gorgeous, surpassing in splendour that of "Le Biche au Bois," whose unlucky career as "The Princess" who was done something or another very wonderful to, came to so rapid a termination at Drury-Lane.

The patrons of the *Streazy* have hailed with great glee, the return of their old favourites, Mr. T. P. Cooke and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Honner. The after-season here appears to have been more lucrative than the actual one. We believe that Mrs. Davidge does not retire altogether from the management, but is joined by Mr. Bunn in the speculation, and that operas will be principally produced. Mr. Grive will "star" the new management in the scenic department.

#### CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, September 5.—Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.

MONDAY, 6.—The Sun rises near E. by N. at 5h. 21m.; he is due E. at 6h. 20m.; and he sets near W. by N. at 6h. 35m.

TUESDAY, 7.—St. Eunuchus.—Jupiter rises near the N.E. by N. at 11h. 50m. p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 8.—Nativity of the Virgin Mary.—Mars rises near the E.N.E. at 8h. 18m. p.m.; he souths at 3h. 38m. after midnight.

THURSDAY, 9.—New Moon at 3h. 47m. p.m.—Saturn rises midway between the E. by S. and the E.S.E. before sunset; he souths at 11h. 32m. p.m., at an altitude of 28°.

FRIDAY, 10.—The length of the day is 12h. 58m.; the day has decreased 3h. 36m. since the Longest Day.

SATURDAY, 11.—Jewish year 5608 begins.—The Moon and Venus are near together.

The planets favourably situated for observations are, Saturn, in the S.E., during the evenings; Mars, in the East, and situated about 15° W. of the Pleiades; he may, however, be readily distinguished by his increasing brightness and the redness of his colour. At daybreak, Jupiter is also visible, and situated near to Castor and Pollux. The telescopic objects favourably situated are Neptune, which souths at about 11h. p.m., at an altitude of 26°; and Mr. Hind's new planet (Iris), which souths between 8h. and 9h. p.m.

The following are the elements of the new planet Iris, as calculated by Mr. Hind:—

Mean longitude of Iris, at September 0d. 0h., was	356	9	13.3
Longitude of Perihelion	..	26	9 48.5
Ascending Node	..	251	41 14.5
Inclination of the orbit	..	4	37 22.1
Angle of eccentricity	..	25	35 22.1
or e	0.431920		
Log. semi-axis Major	..	0.4598916	
Period, in sidereal years	..	4.896	

From these elements it would seem that the new planet is one of the most remarkable of the small planets, on account of the great eccentricity of the orbit, and its period of revolution is longer than those of any other of these small bodies.

#### TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE,

FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 11.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
M 10 40	A 11 20	M 11 58	A 0 24	A 0 50	M 1 15	A 1 35
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m

\* \* There will be no high tide during the afternoon of Tuesday.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Q. Z." Lincoln's Inn-fields.—Warwick Castle is shown daily to visitors, except during the residence of the noble family there; when the public are admitted during one hour on Saturdays only. A trifling gratuity is expected.

"Ignoramus" should apply respecting the investment, to a respectable Broker.

"E. W." Hove.—The condition depends on the distance, which our Correspondent does not state.

"Cork."—The Lines will not suit.

"Piscator" should apply in Bell-yard, Fleet-street, one of the olden localities for Dealers in Fishing Tackle.

"Southport."—The Royal Thames Regatta took place on the 7th of June. (See our Journal of the 12th of June.)

"R. L. J. F."—Johnson and Walker spell the word thus: Stationary.

"A Greek."—Finsbury-circus.—Drury Lane Theatre will be re-opened by M. Jullien, on Oct. 1, with Promenade Concerts; and after Dec. 1, the performances will be Opera, Ballet, and Pantomime.

"A Subscriber," Stratford-on-Avon.—The Waithman Obelisk stands midway in the road between the corners of Ludgate-hill and Farringdon-street, opposite the Obelisk set up in the Mayoralty of Wilkes.

"Dynamics."—Read Müller's Lectures on Physics, in the Pharmaceutical Times.

"Frank" should consult the East India Register.

"T. R. B. L."—Is it the intention of Government to extend the Post-Office regulation limiting to seven days after publication, the free delivery of Newspapers sent abroad, to those re-posted to places within the kingdom?—We have heard of no such intention.

"J. B. U." is thanked; though we had, in some measure, in the present Number, anticipated his suggestions. We do not, however, agree with our Correspondent's opinion as to the "illiberality" of certain Illustrations.

"Himalaya."—A concise History of the South Sea Bubble was reprinted in 1826-27. The sum recovered from the Estates of the Directors amounted to £2,014,000.

"A Subscriber."—A will made in 1838, required to be attested by three disinterested persons, as regarded real estate, or two if it bequeathed personal property only. A will must be proved, except under extraordinary circumstances, within six months from the death of the testator. The last will is valid.

"F. W. M." Richmond.—Consult the accounts of the Royalists supplied by Clarendon, Warwick, Ludlow, Hutchinson, May, and Herbert.

"P. Q. R." will, perhaps, favour us with a view of the new church in question.

"F. W. K." Minehead.—William and Mary Howitt are husband and wife. Step-mother and mother-in-law are synonymous. If our Correspondent delight in etymologies, he may enjoy a treat in consulting, on the derivation of step-mother, the Dictionaries of Johnson, Lemon, Ash, Booth, and (specially) Richardson.

Step is a corruption of the Danish sted, vice, loco, in the place of, instead of. For a reply to the third question, see our Chess Department, next week.

"An Old Subscriber" may consult the will of Guy, the benevolent bookseller, at Doctors' Commons. Guy died in 1724.

"Artisticus."—For some hints on Drawing on Wood, see the "History of Wood-Engraving," in the Supplement published with No. 114 of our Journal.

"Y. Z." can only compel by action at law.

"P. Q. R." Greenwich, is thanked for the Sketch; but we have not room to engrave it.

"D. N. O."—The "Statistics of Crime" must be sought in the Official Tables compiled by Mr. Redgrave, from the "Registers of Commitments for Trial," kept at the Home Office. For Abstract, see "Companion to the Almanac," 1841, and following years.

A Country Subscriber" may obtain the Engraving of "The Death of the Children of Niobe" from Wilson's picture, in No. 112 of our Journal.

"J. D. D."—All claims to the Peninsular Medal, and documents respecting it, should be sent to the Commander-in-Chief's Office, Horse Guards.

"Z. Finzi."—The lines from "Popé's Ode on St. Cecilia's Day" are an evident imitation of the verse from Dryden's "Alexander's Feast." Timotheus was the most celebrated lyric poet and musician of antiquity; he flourished at the courts of Philip and Alexander of Macedon. The last is the "Mortal," whom his poetry and music figuratively "raised to the skies." The line, "She drew an angel down," refers to the old legend of St. Cecilia, whose skill in music is said to have drawn angels around her to listen.

"L. W. R."—We should think the claim to the vote a good one.

"Amicus"—Lords-Lieutenant and their Deputies are, we consider, entitled, as military officers, to place the cockade in their servants' hats.

"Q. E. D."—The regulations concerning Cockades are very uncertain: the origin of the usage, and the rules by which that usage should be controlled, are alike in-

volved in doubt. By the law, as laid down, that "the badge is restricted to the servants of naval and military officers," we do not see how a person filling a consular office could properly use it.

"M. M."—Mary, Queen of England, daughter of Henry VIII., died at St. James's, 17th November, 1558. The late Duke of Sussex was born in the same Palace, 27th January, 1773.

"Carabine."—The only means of obtaining a commission in the French service is either by passing through the public schools—the Polytechnic or St. Cyr—or by entering the ranks and working one's way up. An Englishman, if naturalised, might hold a commission. The pay is sufficient for the mode of life of a French officer, but would be found quite inadequate to the extravagance of an English regiment.

"E."—Crewkerne.—We are not in possession of the required information.

"Georgina."—Address Her Majesty's Theatre.

"F. C."—Lutterworth, is thanked; but his suggestion is too complimentary for adoption.

"A Subscriber."—We cannot give the desired recommendation.

"An Old and Constant Admirer" is thanked for the Sketch; though we have not room to insert it.

"Whist."—We do not interfere in disputes at cards.

"M. J. P."—Bishopsgate-street.—We do not remember any more practical information on Organ Building than that contained in the Penny Cyclopaedia.

"A. B."—Barnstaple.—The applicant for the situation will not succeed unless he has received a nautical education.

"W. J. L."—Steyning.—Gun Cotton is sold by Hall and Co., Faversham; Marine Glue by Jaffery and Co., Commercial-road, Limehouse.

"A. E."—Wilton-crescent, should advertise.

"W. H. M."—For admission to the Reading-room apply, with reference to two householders, or persons of station, to Sir Henry Ellis, British Museum.

"M."—Glasgow.—We have not room for the lines.

"A Young Draftsman" is thanked for the offer of the Irish Sketch, though we have not room to engrave it.

\* \* Owing to the pressure of important and interesting intelligence, our Magazine Column for September is unavoidably omitted; together with "A Travelling Contributor's Flying Sheets."

replete with danger. And, without speculators in corn, can any one say how foreign supplies could be obtained? There is no machinery so powerful as the activity of natural commerce.

As the Excise Laws will occupy a prominent place in the discussions of the new Parliament, it is desirable to know what have been the results of the abolition of the system in the only branch of manufacture in which it has been boldly and completely done. Amid monetary pressure, railway embarrassments, and corn trade failures, it is gratifying to see that, when released from fiscal fetters, the skill and enterprise of England can distance all competitors. From some statistics of the manufacture of plate glass just published, it appears that, since the abolition of the duty, the number of hands employed in the process has doubled; the consumption has nearly trebled; the quality of the article has been immensely improved, and the demand is so great, that even the vast increase of hands employed cannot adequately supply it.

Lord George Bentinck once attempted to prove that the relaxation had been a failure, because our exports since the abolition showed a decrease. The fact is, the home demand has grown up in a manner so extraordinary, that it has taken nearly all the efforts of the manufacturers to supply that alone. The trade is growing, importations from abroad are diminishing, and again, we learn that with freedom to act, the competition of "the foreigner" is not in the least to be dreaded. The extent to which our Excise Laws interfere with processes of manufacture can hardly be credited; improvement is scarcely possible under them; they compel the observance of routine, and old methods, for official convenience, cannot be disturbed; a new discovery would disturb the forms and arrangements of the Excise-office. Revenue must be raised, that is certain; but the Excise, in collecting it, prevents the creation of wealth, locks up energy and industry. The whole system will have to be revised; would it not be better to leave all manufactures free to produce in the mode best calculated to effect the object, and tax the proceeds of the operation? Raise the Revenue on what is created, not during the process of creation.

The publication, by the Chamber of Peers, of the papers and documents found in the possession of the Duchess de Praslin and her husband, has revealed how much of intense wretchedness may exist under a surface brilliant with all that wealth and rank can bestow. The "impressions" of the hapless lady, which she relieved her "o'erfraught heart" by recording, though they were never meant for the profanation of other eyes, in their terrible reality, put to shame the laboured fictions of the romance writers by profession. Her involuntary analysis of the character of the Duke, is painfully keen and searching, and furnishes a powerfully-written psychological study. An inferior intellect, and a narrow heart, without a moral sense, cursed with wealth and depraved of object and occupation, becomes degraded after the first effervescent of youth, to the cold, discontented cynic, at once blasé and sensual. It is a nature but too capable of crime, and a vague indefinite fear of the future seems to pervade the communings of the poor victim with herself. "You have a rare and precious talent at poisoning everything;" there is a sad significance in the words.

The French papers hint at rumours of other crimes in the same exalted sphere of life. The Marquis de Montesquieu has committed suicide; the cause stated is—the perpetration of a forgery. It is reported, too, that a son of one of the most celebrated of Napoleon's Marshals has murdered his mistress, and taken flight! And other "shocking scandals are whispered about affecting high individuals."

#### THE WEATHER.

The weather during the past week has been generally fine, the sky has been a good deal clouded; the direction of the wind has been variable, but for the most part from the S.W.; the temperature of the first three days was a little above, and of the last four days it was below, the average of the season.

The following are some particulars of each day:—

Friday, Aug. 27 the highest during the day was 78° deg., and the lowest was 47° deg. Saturday, 28 ..... 76° ..... 53°. Sunday, 29 ..... 77° ..... 52°. Monday, 30 ..... 66° ..... 49

## POSTSCRIPT.

## THE QUEEN IN SCOTLAND.

ARDVERKIE, Tuesday, Aug. 31.

Yesterday, her Majesty went out in her barge on Lake Laggan with the Prince of Wales, attended by the Viscountess Jocelyn, the Marquis of Abercorn, and the Earl of Aberdeen.

The Prince went out into the forest deer-stalking, and returned to the Lodge with a fine stag.

The Earl of Aberdeen took his departure.

There was no addition to the Royal dinner party.

ORKNEY AND ZETLAND ISLES ELECTION.—Final close of the poll:—Orkney: Dundas, 145; Anderson, 140. Zetland: Dundas, 38; Anderson, 69. Total: Anderson, 209; Dundas, 183. Majority for Anderson, 26.

TRIAL FOR MURDER IN SCOTLAND.—A man named Thomas Leith was tried at Edinburgh, on Wednesday, for murder. Lord Justice Clerk presided, supported by Lords Ward and Crichton. (The evidence given was of a kind which left no doubt that the prisoner had poisoned his wife, and the probable cause appeared to be a quarrel respecting another woman. The Jury found him guilty, but recommended him to mercy, simply, it appeared, from an aversion to capital punishment. The prisoner was sentenced to death, and the execution fixed for the 22nd instant.

ADDRESS TO SIR R. PEEL.—The Town Council of Sunderland, on Tuesday, voted an address to Sir Robert Peel, complimentary of his public services, especially in reference to commercial reform. The occasion which has given rise to this manifestation of respect is the visit of the hon. Baronet to the Marquis of Londonderry, at Wynyard Park, to participate in the festivities consequent on the nuptials of Lady Alexandrina Vane, with the Earl of Portarlington. The marriage took place on Wednesday last.

## LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

## ITALY.

Accounts have been received by extraordinary express from Leghorn, of the 27th ult., announcing the discovery of a conspiracy in that city, got up by the Jesuit-Austrian party. An attack was projected on the house of the Austrian Consul, to give rise to a disturbance, and procure a pretext to the Austrian Government for interfering. Like the conspiracy at Rome, it was discovered by the people. The Grand Duke has formed a Council of State, or *consulta*, consisting of the most distinguished men of the country.

## IRELAND.

THE REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—The weekly meeting of the Repeal Association, held on Monday, was numerously attended. Several Members of Parliament were present. J. P. Somers, M.P. for Sligo, presided. Mr. John O'Connell, M.P., commenced the business of the day by handing a remittance of £50 from the "Boston Association of the Friends of Ireland," with a series of resolutions, and a letter from Judge James, a portion of which, as it had reference to the foreign policy of Ireland, was not submitted to the meeting. One of the resolutions having recognised Mr. John O'Connell as the leader of the Repeal movement, the honourable gentleman stated that he would accept the leadership, notwithstanding the responsibilities which he was fully aware were attached to that distinguished position. Mr. John O'Connell subsequently addressed the meeting at considerable length. At the termination of the proceedings, the rent for the week was announced to be £100.

THE IRISH CONFEDERATION.—A meeting of the Irish Confederation took place in Dublin last week, which was remarkable for two new and singular conversions to Confederate principles. These are, Lord Wallscourt, a Baron in the Irish Peersage, and Mr. Chisholm Anstey, an English barrister, of some eminence in his profession, and M.P. for Youghal.

MURDER IN THE COUNTY TIPPERARY.—A frightful murder was committed in the neighbourhood of Emly, on Sunday last. As James Cashen, a respectable farmer, was going to mass about the hour of eleven o'clock in the forenoon, he was waylaid while crossing part of Mr. Bolton Massey's demesne, at Ballywys, and his brains beaten out with stones. Some dealing in land which he had last March with some of his own family, is supposed to have caused this outrage. The Coroner's inquest have returned a verdict of "Wilful murder against persons unknown."

MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCE AT CASHEL.—A very distressing affair took place on Tuesday (last week), at Cashel. Mr. Francis O'Ryan, of Cashel, having had an altercation with his son, Francis Ryan, jun. (an interesting young man, who is to arrive at his majority in a few months), the father discharged a loaded pistol at him, the contents of which entered the right eye, but, taking an oblique direction, did not penetrate the brain. The medical attendants on the wounded gentleman entertain hopes of his recovery, although the ball has not yet been extracted. Mr. F. O'Ryan, sen., is in custody for the offence. The *Tipperary Vindicator* gives a very different account of this unhappy affair. It intimates that Mr. Ryan, sen., had latterly shown symptoms of mental weakness, and that his quarrel with his son arose from the refusal of the latter to sign certain renewals of leases, to which his signature was necessary.

EXECUTIONS IN IRELAND.—The extreme sentence of the law was carried into execution, at the gallows in front of the county gaol, Kilkenny, on Wednesday (last week), on the culprits Larkin and Daniel, for the murder of Mr. Prim. —On Thursday (last week) John Helahan, who was convicted at the late assizes of the brutal murder of John Kelly, of Kildemond, county Carlow, underwent the extreme penalty of the law in front of the county gaol.

## ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

## STORM ON THE COAST OF SCOTLAND.—REPORTED LOSS OF AN EMIGRANT SHIP AND THREE HUNDRED PASSENGERS.

There has been a very violent storm on the coasts of Sutherland and Caithness. A large emigrant vessel is said to have been driven upon the rocks of "Far-out-head," near Durness, and three hundred unhappy individuals perished, the whole that the vessel contained. The accounts yet received of this disaster are rather vague. A letter from Tongue, dated August 24, says:—"I have seen the Durness postman, on his return from that place, who brings the disastrous tidings of the total wreck of a three-masted emigrant ship, with upwards of three hundred passengers, on the rocks at the "Far-out-head," in Durness—not a soul is saved, all have perished, and the ship is a total wreck; only seventeen bodies have as yet come on shore. The headland where the vessel struck is a bold unapproachable place. It is reported that the vessel is from Hull, but you may soon have more authentic accounts from other quarters. The magistrates are on the spot. The vessel is the *Canton*, of Hull; but as no proper accounts have yet been got of the number of passengers on board, all is taken from surmise, by there being a great deal of clothing and chests coming ashore. The seventeen bodies are said to be those of seamen."

The storm which rent the canvass awnings of the Queen's household at Laggan has done fearful damage in other parts of the north of Scotland. At Thurso, a vessel called the *Britannia*, of Ardrossan, was wrecked, and two of her crew drowned. Another—the *Triad*, of Dundee—was lost; crew saved. From Shetland, intelligence has arrived of the loss of the packet-boat from Dunrossness, when six persons perished. At Fraserburgh one herring-boat went down with all hands, and many more, it is dreaded, have met with a similar fate. An Inverness sloop is also on shore there, but the crew escaped.

ACCIDENT TO THE "GLAMORGAN" STEAM-PACKET.—The *Glamorgan* steam-packet left Bristol on Monday morning, with 500 persons on board, for a cheap excursion to Minehead. An accident happened which led to some alarming rumours, happily, however, without foundation. It appears that, when off Minehead, a sudden escape of steam caused an alarm to be raised that the boiler had burst. Great consternation ensued, and signals of distress being made, a number of the passengers left the steamer in the *Fairy* sloop, and two boats from the shore. On examination it was found that a boiler-plate had given way, and after anchoring for the night, the injury was sufficiently repaired next morning to enable them to put into Minehead, and finally return to Bristol with the rest of the passengers. The vessel is very old, and is considered unfit for service.

CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER.—On Tuesday Mr. W. Carter held an inquest at the Bedford Arms, East-lane, Walworth, on the body of Mrs. Mary Olds. She died on Thursday (last week), and her husband is at present in custody. It appeared that the deceased had managed to hoard upwards of £90. Her husband on Saturday week insisted on having some of it; and, on her refusing, made a violent assault upon her. He caught her by the throat, and while on the ground knelt on her chest. Her son, a lad of sixteen years of age, ran to the station-house, stating that his father was murdering his mother. The police interfered, but on the following Thursday the deceased died from the effects of the injury she received. The Jury returned a verdict of "Manslaughter" against the husband.

A HUSBAND COMMITTED FOR POISONING HIS WIFE.—An inquiry took place, last Saturday before C. J. Carttar, Esq., at the Garrison's Head, Lower-road, Deptford, respecting the death of Mary Hutchings, aged forty-eight, the wife of John Hutchings, a cooper, recently employed at her Majesty's victualling yard, Deptford, whose demise took place on Sunday night last. Several witnesses were examined, who deposed to the husband's general ill-treatment of his wife. Deceased was taken seriously ill on Sunday afternoon, vomiting very much, and in great pain. She said she had taken jalap. A surgeon was called in the evening, who prescribed what he thought was necessary, treating the case as one of cholera. Suspicion, however, having been excited, a *post-mortem* examination of the stomach took place, and a considerable quantity of arsenic was found in it. Hutchings was called in and examined, but he merely said he was an innocent man, and gave no explanation. The Jury found a verdict of "Wilful murder" against him, and he has been committed to Newgate for trial.

SUICIDE OF A SERVANT GIRL.—On Tuesday Mr. Payne held an inquest at the Ship, Little Tower-street, on the body of Emma Allsop, aged twenty-three, a servant in the employment of Mr. Farley, a grocer and tea-dealer, of 5, in the same street. The evidence proved that the deceased had been confined to her bed with illness on Friday and Saturday (last week), during which time she complained of violent pains in her head. About four o'clock in the afternoon of the latter day, on one of her friends entering her bed-room, she was astonished at finding a pool of blood on the floor and a frightful wound in the deceased's neck. Upon the bed was found a razor, belonging to a gentleman living in the house, with which she had committed the dreadful deed. It appeared that the deceased, in order to get possession of the razor, had got up and gone from her own bed-room to that belonging to the lodger without being perceived. Verdict—"Temporary insanity."

## THE PRASLIN TRAGEDY.

A QUARTO volume, of two hundred and twenty-six pages, has just been printed, by order of the Court of Peers, for distribution amongst its members, relative to the investigation of the facts connected with the Assassination of the Duchess de Praslin, and with the subsequent Suicide of her assassin, the Duc de Praslin. The evidence contained in the volume is illustrated and elucidated by plans of the Hôtel Praslin, No. 55, Faubourg Saint Honoré, and its dependencies; of the interior of the mansion, with the rooms through which the murderer must have passed to accomplish his deadly purpose; and of the bedchamber of the unfortunate Duchess, with the places where each article of furniture was placed, and the pieces thrown down in the awful struggle. Having received a proof copy of the above volume and drawings, we placed the latter immediately in the hands of our Artists and Engravers, who have presented faithful copies in our columns this day; and we now proceed to the analysis of the testimony of the various witnesses, and of the examination of the two persons arrested for the crime—the Duc de Praslin, now no more; and the Governess, Mlle. Henriette Deluzy-Despotes. The volume is divided into two series: the first containing the investigations by the local magistrate; and the second, the Royal Ordinance convoking the Court of Peers, with the result of their inquiries; ending with the death of the Duc de Praslin. The greater portion of the facts, in the first series, has been already reported at length in our columns; but in the second series there are many novel points, not yet made known to the public.

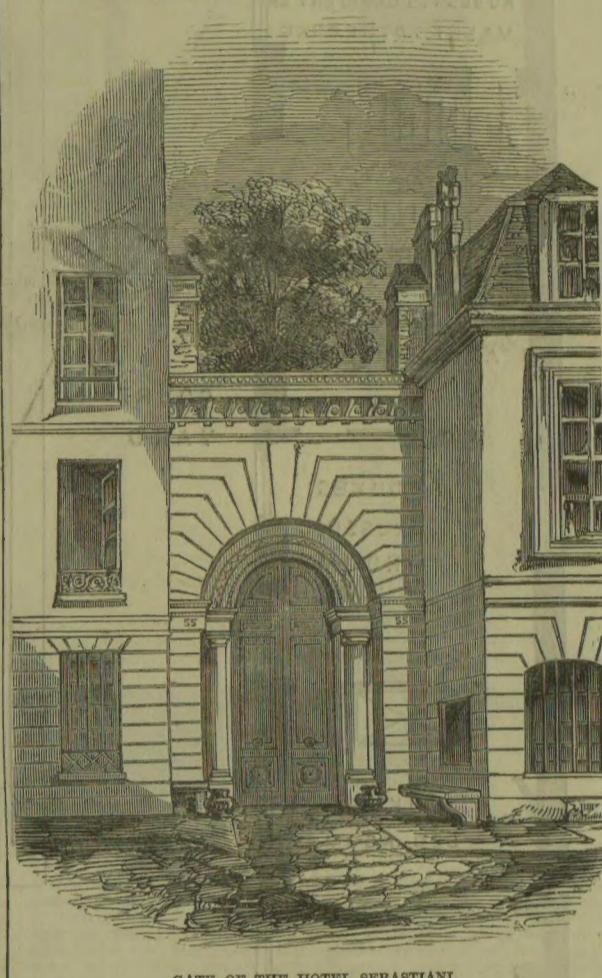
The first *procès-verbal* of the Commissary of Police of the Quartier des Champs Elysées was drawn up, at a quarter to six in the morning of the 18th of August, not two hours having elapsed from the committal of the crime before the inferior magistrates had commenced their examination. MM. Bruzelin and Truy, in their very first record, prove that their suspicions fell on the Duke, spots of blood having been found on his person, with pieces of cord equally stained.

It will be recollect that the journals were not aware that the Duke was thus suspected from the beginning—a proof of the prudence with which the inquiry was conducted. The minute examination of the two medical men, MM. Canuet and Raymond, proves that the Duchess received thirteen wounds in the head, two on the neck, one on the lower jaw, with the jugular vein divided, besides wounds on the arms, wrists, and hands, from a double-edged weapon. M. Broussais, the Juge d'Instruction, took up the inquiry at eight o'clock, with the Procureur du Roi. They traced the blood up to the room of the Duke, which he accounted for by his contact with the body, when Auguste, his valet, and the other servants, were in the room. The Duke appears to have parried the searching questions with no little ingenuity; but after the Judge had seized all his clothes, handkerchiefs, slippers, &c., marked with blood, and the ashes of burned papers, linen, &c., he was called upon for a circumstantial declaration. This statement was cool and collected. We give this *in extenso*, as it has been hitherto erroneously printed in the papers:—

"Madame de Praslin and I arrived yesterday in Paris, at a quarter past eight in the evening, by the Corbeil Railroad. Madame de Praslin got into a hackney coach, with my sons and their tutor, and I got into another, with my daughters and youngest son; and we arrived at our mansion at a quarter-past ten o'clock, after having both made calls in Paris. Madame de Praslin had several to make. I, with my daughters, went to see their former governess, Mlle. De Luzy, living at Rue de Harlay, No. 9, au Marais. I did not see the Duchess on my arrival, as she had already gone to her room. I, on my part, immediately went to my bedroom, after having conducted my daughters to their room, situated on the second floor. I went to bed, and fell asleep immediately, without wanting the assistance of a valet-de-chambre, whose services I do not make use of. This morning, at an hour I cannot indicate, but just at daybreak, I was awoken by confused cries; but, as such were frequently heard in the Champs Elysées, I was not alarmed, and I did not even get up immediately. A moment afterwards I heard steps to and fro in the garden, and I got out of bed, put on my dressing-gown, and went towards Madame de Praslin's room. On arriving at the third door of my room, which is at the foot of the steps of the small corridor preceding it, I heard confused cries; I think it was 'A l'Assassin' that was called out; and, without going further, I turned back to my room; I entered my study, and I took from the secretary a loaded horse-pistol, with which I armed myself. I then descended to the room of Madame de Praslin, in which I entered, passing through her dressing-room. Darkness and profound silence reigned therein. I called Madame by her name of Fanny, and she did not answer me. I then went out into the dressing-room, and I lighted a wax candle with matches which were always there, under the clock in that room. I then returned alone into the Duchess' chamber, and I found her seated on the floor, her head supported on a sofa placed between the chimney and the window. I went to her; her face was covered with blood, which flowed abundantly from wounds on her head and neck. It did not strike me to call my servants; there would, in fact, have been no time, for I had scarcely essayed to raise Madame's head, and to give her some help, when I heard a knocking at the door of Madame, communicating with the saloon. I went to draw the bolt, which closed it in the interior, and I found there the persons whom I named to you just now (the servants). It was in the attempt to aid Madame la Duchess that I stained myself with blood. After these persons had entered, I talked with them for twenty minutes or half an hour. I touched several times the body of Madame de Praslin; and finally, as I was distracted, I returned to my room, where I first cleaned my hands, and it was only at a later period that I tried to get rid of the spots of blood with water that I had on my breast, on the left side of my dressing-gown, in order not to frighten my children, to whom I was about to go to inform them of the misfortune which had just taken from them their mother. My courage failed me to tell them. Very soon afterwards, General Sebastiani, uncle of the Duchess, arrived, and he was still with me when M. Bruzelin, the Commissary of Police, arrived. My first anxiety had been to order the Commissary of Police and a doctor to be sent for."

ignorant of that.—You have frequently, in the course of this morning, gone into the chamber of Madame de Praslin; was she in bed the first time you entered? No; she was, unfortunately, stretched upon the floor.—Was she not stretched upon the spot where you had struck her for the last time? Why do you put such a question to me?—Because you have not answered me all. Whence came these scratches which I see upon your hands? They happened yesterday evening, when about to leave Praslin, when making up some parcels with Madame de Praslin.—And that bite upon your thumb, how did that happen? It is not a bite.—The doctors who have visited you declare that it is. Spare me, I am exhausted.—You must have experienced a most distressing moment, when you saw, upon entering your chamber, that your son was covered with the blood which you had, and which he was obliged to wash off? Those marks of blood will be altogether misinterpreted. I did not wish to appear before my children, with the blood of their mother upon me.—You are very wretched to have committed this crime? (The accused makes no reply.)—Your silence answers for you that you are guilty.—You have come here with a conviction that I am guilty, and I cannot change it.—You can change it if you will give us any reason to believe the contrary; if you will give any explanation of appearances that are inexplicable upon any other supposition than that of your guilt. I do not believe I can give any reason to change my conviction.—(The accused again remains silent, and which he had not strength to continue.)—When you committed this frightful crime, did you think of your children? As to the crime, I have not committed it; as to my children, they are the subject of my constant thoughts. Do you venture to affirm that you have not committed this crime? The accused, putting his head between his hands, remained silent for some moments, and then said "I cannot answer such a question".—The Chancellor then intimated to the prisoner that he must consider himself under arrest, and the examination terminated.

On reading the above examinations, one is struck by the amazing difference in the criminal proceedings of France and England. Here, an accused would have been told over and over again "not to commit himself"—not to state a word that might be prejudicial to him, that he had better wait for his legal adviser—that it was quite at his option whether he would make any declaration. It may be questioned if this delirious had been preserved in France, whether the proof could have been brought home to the Duke, so palpably as results from the clever and close interrogatory pursued with him.



GATE OF THE HOTEL SEBASTIANI.

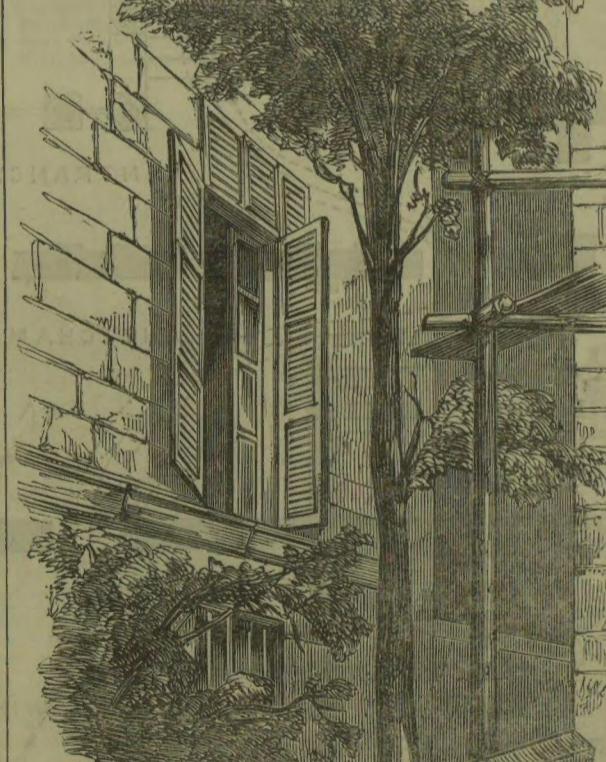
We need not follow the series of examinations mentioned in the *procès verbal*, lasting until one o'clock in the morning, when the examining Judges found it requisite to take some repose after their arduous labours. Proof upon proof was collected during the search. M. Crétin, the architect, was called in to prepare the plans of the exterior and interior of the hotel. The book, with the title "Mrs. Armitage," an English work, which was seen in the hands of the Duchess at eleven o'clock at night, by her femme-de-chambre, was found, stained with blood. Another elaborate examination of the body of the Duchess was made by Baron Pasquier, the King's surgeon, MM. Boys de Loury, M. Tardieu, &c.; the conclusions come to—that there were altogether thirty large and deep wounds—some made with a blunt instrument, and others with a sharp one. That death arose from loss of blood, and that there must have been a violent struggle—the state of the room leaving no doubt on this subject. The state of the stomach proved that the victim must have cried out several times, and that she must have lived long enough to swallow a quantity of saliva mixed with blood. That the most serious wounds on the head must have been inflicted last, as her means of resistance must have become weaker; and that the hand and nails of the murderer must have been strongly applied to the mouth, to stifle her cries.

The next class of witnesses examined were those who heard the cries at day-break, on the morning of the fatal 18th of August, proceeding from the Hôtel Praslin. Then follow the depositions of the servants of the Duke and Duchess, beginning with Auguste Charpentier, the valet-de-chambre and maître d'hôtel. He testified as to the bad understanding between the Duke and Duchess, arising, as he heard, from the Duke's attachment to Mlle. Deluzy, the governess, who was dismissed about a month previous, after she had been five years in the care of the children. This portion of the evidence is very important and we give it in its own words:—"During our stay in the country, the Duke went with me four times to Paris, where we remained one or two days. I have reason to suppose that he went, on every one of these journeys, to the new residence of Mlle. Deluzy, Rue de Harlay, No. 9, au Marais; but I must add that he never sent me there. However, at the period when Mlle. Deluzy was to have quitted the house, he had charged me to go and take the dimensions of rooms, retained beforehand, at the house of Mme. Saint Chair, Avenue Chateaubriand, which she was to occupy, in order to place furniture therein. This plan was not carried out, but I know not for what reason. Our journeys to Paris took place during the month of August; on the 2nd, leaving again on the 4th; on the 8th, leaving on the 9th. On the latter day, Mlle. Deluzy came to reconduct the Duke to the railroad, and I saw her in tears in the hackney coach which had brought her, as well as the Duke and his two children, Mlles. Marie and Bertha, and M. Raynal. The Duchess never came to Paris since her departure for the country. The last appearance of the Duke in Paris took place on the 11th of August, and we returned on the 12th, the Duke by the train of seven o'clock, and I by that of half-past twelve. I never entered the rooms of the Duchess during any of these journeys, because the Duke had ordered them not to be touched, stating to the woman in charge, Mme. Merville, that the Duchess would return to Paris, one of these days. During our stay in the country, the Duchess had secretly recommended to me through Mme. Schaff, not to evince much zeal for her (the Duchess') private service, because she had remarked that these attentions on my part might hurt me in the mind of my master. This was all the same to me, as, for two months, I had been seeking another place."

M. Charpentier's evidence then goes on to describe the arrival of the family on the 17th, the departure of the Duke with his daughters in one carriage, the Duchess in another, and his own in a third with the daughters, and his preparing of the Duke's room. He heard the Duke arrive at eleven o'clock, and retire to his room; but did not go to him, not being asked for. At five o'clock, he heard the bells of the Duchess' room ring, both for her valet Maxime, and her femme-de-chambre Mme. Leclerc. The discovery of the crime, the cries of the victim, the great smoke coming out of the chimney of the Duke's room, the locked doors, the giving of the alarm, &c., are all facts known to our readers. After stating that he went to fetch a glass of water for General Sebastiani, who had fainted on his arrival, out of the Duke's chamber, and that not a drop was to be found (the Duke had used it all in washing away the bloodstains on his clothes), he thus concludes his testimony:—"I was ordered to keep to my room; and when I found that this measure was adopted, which seemed to incriminate me, I said then, that it would be much better if a search were made in the room of the Duke. From that moment I am ignorant of what passed in the house."

François Jules Lemouller, a medical student, proved that he heard the cries at daybreak, but that they were so frightful, that he attributed them to some escaped madman or mad-woman in the Champs Elysées, and did not get up until two hours after the murder had been discovered.

The femme-de-chambre, Madame Leclerc, fully confirmed the evidence of Charpentier, mentioning a curious fact, that the Duke had dismissed Mademoiselle Josephine, a femme-de-chambre of his daughter's, on the 16th of August, at Praslin, for having allowed the Duchess to sleep in her room, in order that she



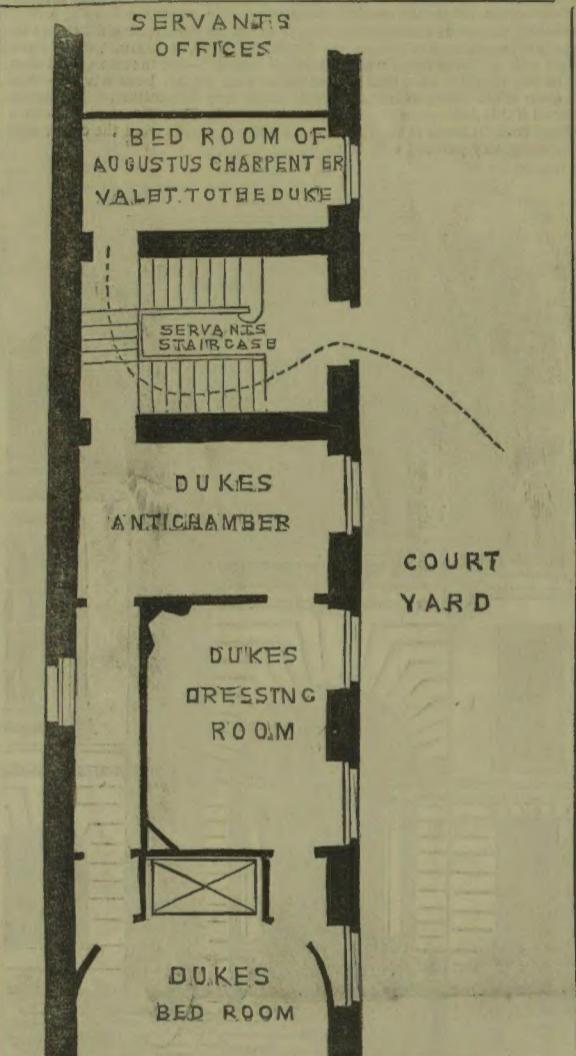
WINDOW OF THE HOTEL SEBASTIANI.

It is quite unnecessary to follow the ingenious cross-examination by which the Judges dissected the above extraordinary statement, and came to the certainty of the Duke's guilt; but it

## THE PRASLIN TRAGEDY, AT PARIS.

(the Duchess) might be near her daughter, Mademoiselle Bertha, when attacked with scarlet fever. Here is her description of the last moments the unfortunate Duchess was seen alive.

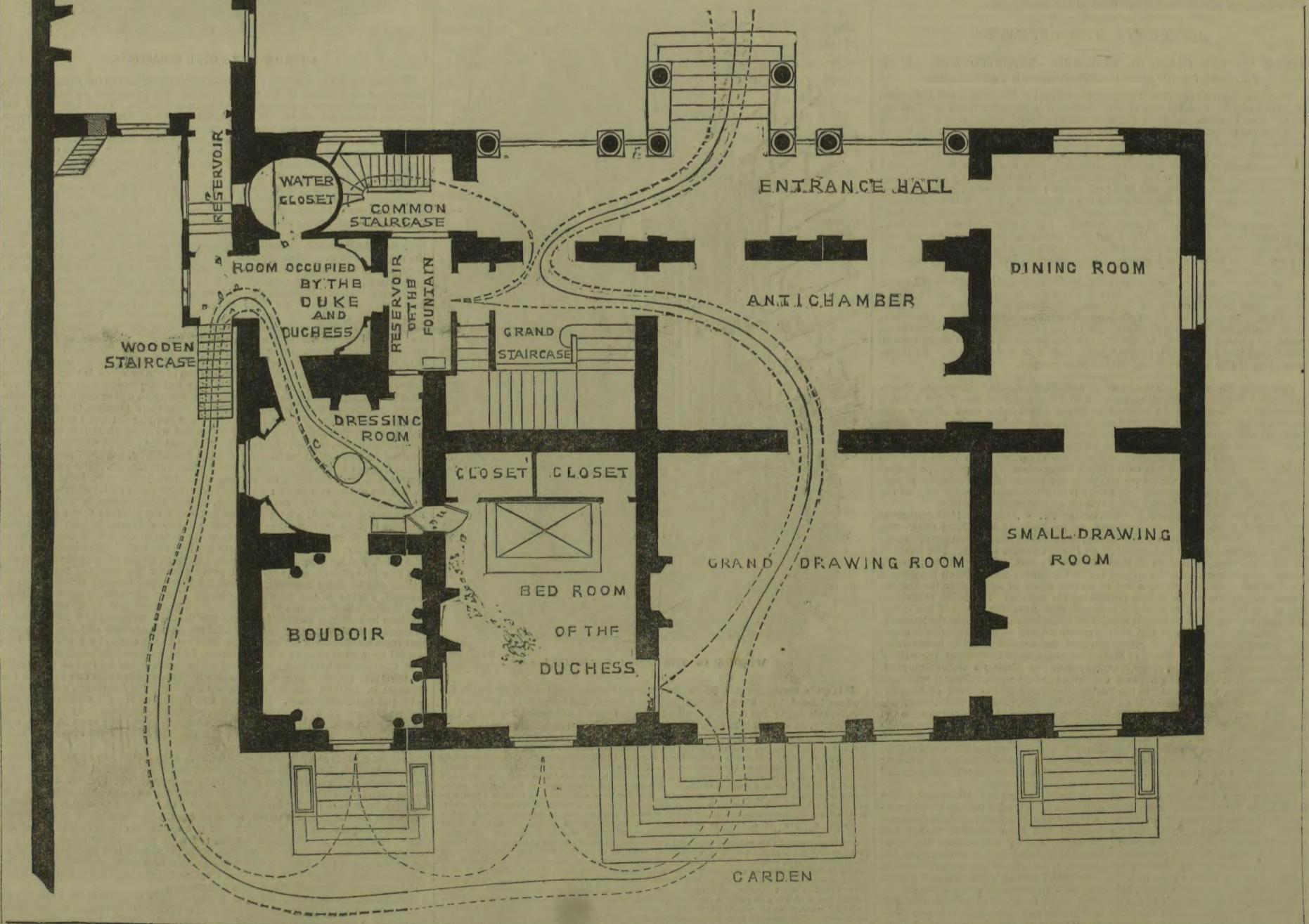
"Madame la Duchesse arrived at the mansion half-an-hour or three-quarters of an hour after me, that is to say, between half-past nine and ten o'clock. On arriving, she was hungry, and ordered, as there was no *bouillon*, a piece of bread with salt, a knife, and half a bottle of *sirop d'argent*. There was water in the water-bottle. I placed all these things on a little work-table at the end of the sofa which is near the chimney-piece. Madame was about to eat at a quarter-past ten, after I had arranged her toilette for the night, at the moment when I retired to my room to take some refreshment. Towards eleven o'clock, I entered her chamber for the last time. Madame was in bed, reading; she had a wax candle on her *table de nuit*, and a second candle was burning on the *commode*, near the door of the boudoir. Madame said to me, that she had lighted the candle because she thought that I would not return to her room. I said to her, yes, and I extinguished this candle, which would have burnt the whole night, and put in its place a yellow copper night-lamp, which I placed lighted in the interior of the chimney, as I was daily accustomed to do; for Madame never slept without a light. Auguste Charpentier had prepared this lamp, and had placed it on the *commode* of the little antechamber separating the dressing-room of the Duchess from the room



GARDEN FRONT OF THE HOTEL SEBASTIANI.

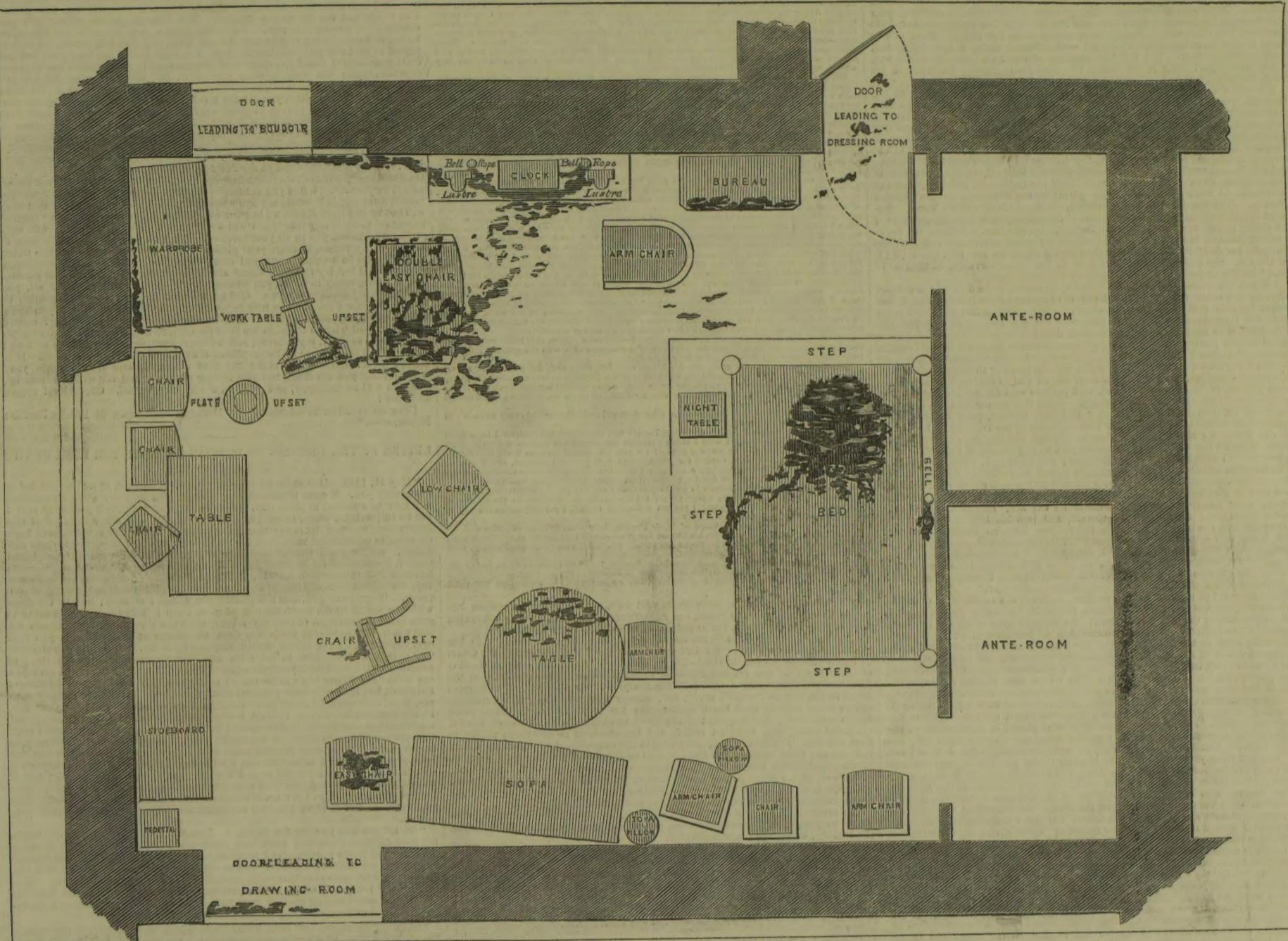
of the Duke; and, I am certain to have seen closed, with the ordinary bar of iron, the door of the staircase leading to the garden: the window of this antechamber, and the *persienne* (Venetian blinds) of this window, were also closed. Madame herself was in the habit of taking care that this door and window were closed, and it happened sometimes that she herself placed the bar of iron, when it had been neglected to have been done. Madame, when I quitted her, told me to call her the next morning at six o'clock, as she had so many things to do during her

single day's stay in Paris. We were to have left the day after, at six o'clock, for sea-bathing at Dieppe. I then remarked that, during my absence, Madame had taken the food; the remainder of the bread, the plate, and the half bottle of *sirop* remained on the little table I mentioned, but she placed her glass of water on her *table de nuit*. On leaving the dressing-room of Madame, I met, in the antechamber, the Duke, returning to the house with something under his arm. I did not speak to him. I afterwards closed the second door of this antechamber



GROUND PLAN OF THE HOTEL SEBASTIANI, RUE DU FAUBOURG-SAINT HONORE, NO. 55.

## THE PRASLIN TRAGEDY, AT PARIS.



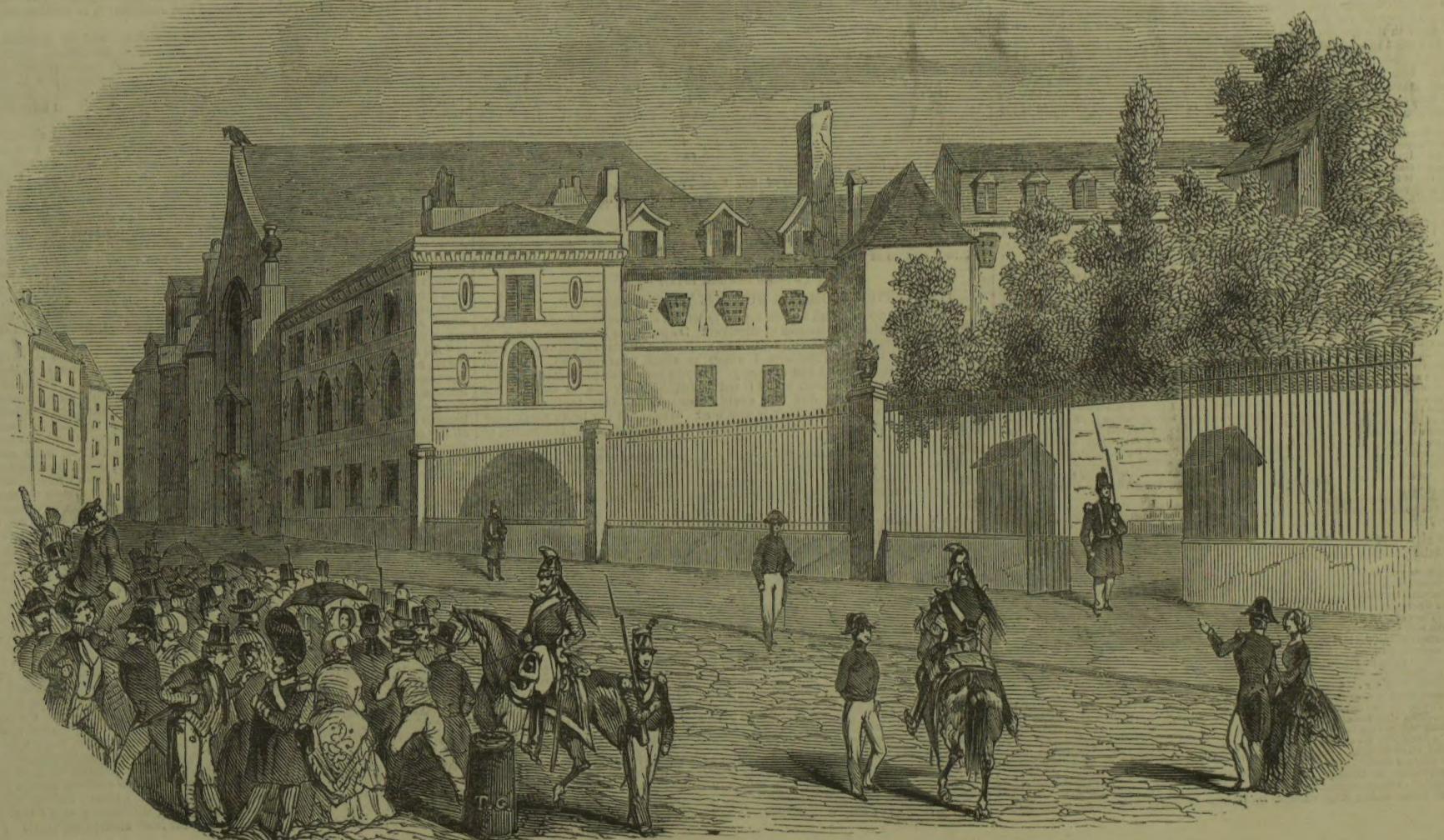
PLAN OF THE DUCHESS DE PRASLIN'S BEDCHAMBER.

that which is near the fountain, for the other was never closed, and I hung up the key on the ordinary nail, on the right side of the mantel-piece, where a stranger could not see it. The closing of this door was on this side, the only closing of the sleeping-room of the Duchess; for the door of her dressing-room and the two doors communicating from her cabinet to her room, were never closed. The second door of this room could be locked with the aid of an interior bolt; but the Duchess was not in the habit of drawing it at night; she closed it during the day, when she dressed or wrote. I did not remark that the staple of this lock had been detached from the mantel-piece at the door, and that, consequently, this door could not be locked. I am certain that this staple was in its ordinary place when we left for the country, six weeks since."

Madame Leclerc then despoiled to the hearing of the two strong pulls at the bells, which awoke her, coupled with frightful cries from the Duchess; to her attempt to enter the room with Auguste at the door of the antechamber, at the foot of the staircase, and finding it locked, the cries still continuing; of their transit by the grand *salon*, but finding the doors to the sleeping-room also locked; to the cessation of the cries, and then, said the witness, "C'était un silence de mort." She passed with Auguste into the garden by the steps of the grand *salon*, Auguste trying the blinds of the sleeping room and boudoir in vain. Arrived at the extremity of the boudoir in the garden, they perceived the door of the house called the wooden staircase, opening on the antechamber, separating the rooms of the Duke and Duchess, open, and by this way entered the dressing-room, the

door of which was wide open. Augusta, on reaching the door of the Duchess' sleeping-room, drew back, exclaiming that some misfortune had happened, for he smelt powder. She was frightened to death at his words—they did not dare enter the room, and retired by the garden and saloon to call for help. It was quite dark in the dressing-room, as the windows were all closed, but it was day-break out of doors. Merville and Charpentier finally entered the Duchess' room, and found her assassinated.

Merville, the valet-de-chambre in the service of the Duchess of Orleans, despoiled that he was formerly with the Marshal Sebastiani, and that, when the daughter of the latter married the Duc de Praslin, in October, 1824, he entered the service of the latter, and remained until 1832, when he passed into the ser-



THE LUXEMBOURGH PRISON.

vice of the late Duke of Orleans; but his wife, who was laundress to the Duchess de Praslin, never left her service. He declared that the Duke and Duchess lived happily until Mdlle. Deluzy came into the house as governess, and that she had been the cause of the alienation of affection from the Duchess of her husband and children. The fact was notorious. He corroborated the evidence of Charpentier and Madame Leclerc as to the alarm, and the scene in the Duchess' room. He observed, like Charpentier, the excessive smoke from the Duke's room, as if a large fire had been lighted. The little work-table, a plate, a salt cellar, &c., were on the ground. The only exclamation of the Duke that he heard was, "Ah! mon Dieu! what is the matter?" And then, putting his hand to his head, he added, "Who has done that? Who has done that?"

His wife's evidence, she having been brought up from childhood with the Duchess, was to the effect that, except some occasional scenes with the Duke, they lived happily until Mdlle. Deluzy entered the house, and then the differences became serious, the Duchess constantly weeping. The general opinion was that she had lost the affections of her husband, which were bestowed on the governess. Two months prior to the catastrophe, Marshal Sebastiani was informed of the state of things, and then a family quarrel took place; the Duke and Duchess and children no longer taking their meals with the Marshal, as they did before. The Duchess lived alone in her room, and the Duke and children, with the Governess, in their rooms, up to the period of the departure for the Château de Praslin. After the Marshal's intervention, Mdlle. Deluzy left the house. Madame Merville thought that the dismissal of Josephine, the femme-de-chambre of the young ladies, was owing to Mdlle. Deluzy. On Monday, the 16th, the Duke wrote to Madame Merville, that fourteen persons would arrive the next day, the Duchess, her children, &c., and that they would leave, on the 19th (Thursday), for Dieppe. She gave the same details as to the other servants, adding, however, that she suspected the Duke instantly of the murder.

Briffard, the concierge of the Hôtel de Praslin, deposed that the door of the wooden staircase had never been opened during the absence of the family; that it was locked not only with a key but with a bar of iron; and that this was in its place when the Duchess arrived at half past nine on the evening of the 17th. His wife spoke as to the family feeds on account of the governess, although she never perceived any positive signs of an acquaintance with the Duke calculated to excite jealousy. "All that I know is," said this witness, "that she was a bad woman, for whom I always felt a dislike." Once Mdlle. Deluzy told her that the Duchess had never shed a tear when her eldest daughter left for Italy with her husband. Madame Briffard to this reproach replied, that persons who did not shed tears often suffered more than those who cried easily. When she saw the Duke in his wife's room after the murder, he cried out, "Ah! poor woman, poor woman! what monster has assassinated her?" She took the head of the Duchess on her arm; she still breathed; she washed her face with water and applied vinegar, but the victim breathed her last sigh in her arms just as the doctor, M. Canuet, entered the room. "I asked him to bleed Madame; but he replied, 'It is too late.' A moment after, the Duke again entered, and placed his hands on his wife's shoulders, crying out, 'Ah! poor woman, poor woman! who is the monster who has done that?' He perceived the bloody cap in the chimney, and said, 'Oh! what horror, what horror!' He flung himself on the bed, in the corner of the door of the saloon. He appeared desperate, and tore his hair in exclaiming—'Poor children! who will tell them this?—they have no longer a mother! Poor Marechal! who will tell him this?' This scene lasted, according to the witness, until the arrival of General Sebastiani. "On witnessing this great crime," she concluded, "my thought was that it had been committed by the horrible woman who had been governess of the children. I imagined her to be still concealed in a cabinet, and that she was about to appear."

The next point of interest in this volume, is the first examination of Mdlle. Deluzy Desportes, aged 35 years, taken before M. Broussais, Juge d'Instruction, in presence of the King's Procureur. As we shall give at length her more important interrogatory before the Commission of the Court of Peers, we shall but briefly refer to the leading facts. She entered the house of the Duke de Praslin on the 1st of March, 1841, at a salary of 2000 francs per year (£80), with board and lodging, having previously lived in the same capacity at Lady Hislop's, near Charlton, Kent, at a salary of £72. She had to take charge of the education of the nine children, the aid of an under-governess being given. Subsequently a tutor was selected for the boys, and then they were placed under M. Boussu, of the Bourbon College, leaving the three eldest girls and a little boy under her tuition. The three youngest girls were placed in the Convent of the Sacré Coeur. It seemed, however, that the under-governesses soon left, one Mdlle. Belloyer remaining only six months, and the other, Mdlle. Jost, a year. For the last three years Mdlle. Deluzy remained sole governess. She declared that when she entered the family, the Duke and Duchess already lived very unhappily. The Duke placed the entire power over the children in the hands of Mdlle. Deluzy, who opposed the attempts of the Duchess to interfere in their education, with the direct sanction of the Duke. She admitted that she was very wrong to have accepted such a position, but she denied that she had ever attempted to wound the feelings of the Duchess. Interrogated as to the causes of disunion between the pair, she replied, "On the part of the Duchess, it was the desire to domineer over her children, and, above all, of her husband; and, on the part of the Duke, a decided opposition, but accompanied with much kindness." Mdlle. Deluzy emphatically denied that she had given the Duchess the slightest reason for jealousy. She remained after the suspicions had got abroad, because the Duke had promised her a pension for life after she had finished the education of the girls. An article appeared in a journal two years ago, stating that she had eloped with the Duke de Praslin to Corsica, and she wanted to leave, but Marshal Sebastiani persuaded her to stop, as her remaining in the family would most effectually silence the slander. About two months previously, when the Abbé Gallard told her that her presence in the family was a cause of discord, and that she could not remain, she was overwhelmed. She affirmed that the Duchess blew hot and cold—was one day friendly, and the next cold and distant. She left the house finally on the 18th of July last, when the family went to the Château de Praslin. She admitted that she had seen the Duke three times since in Paris (see the evidence of Charpentier). His last visit was on the 17th of August, with his three daughters, and his little boy, between eight and nine o'clock in the evening. The following important facts we give in her own words:—"Madame Lemaire, with whom he then conversed for the first time, made known to him her intention of giving me a superior situation in her house; but she said to him that in consequence of the rumours which had been spread on my account, it was indispensable that Madame the Duchess should write her a letter, ostensibly for the purpose of contradicting them. It was then agreed, that on the following day, I should present myself to the Duchess to solicit from her this letter, and this visit was to have taken place at two o'clock in the afternoon. The Duke and his children then quitted me at about ten o'clock."

Our readers will recollect that the interview was to have taken place at two p.m., on the 18th, and that the Duchess was murdered about daybreak on that day. There can be no doubt, therefore, that the Duke went to the room of the Duchess to obtain this certificate as to the governess' morality, and that the murder followed the Duchess' refusal. From the nature of the injuries it may be supposed that he began with inflicting blows on his wife, and that on her resistance, he resorted at last to the horrible mode of terminating her existence, indicated in the medical report, the most desperate wounds, according to the surgeon, having been the last inflicted.

To go on with Mdlle. Deluzy's examination, she declared that she withdrew to rest at 11 o'clock on the night of the 17th. She was informed of the awful event at eight in the morning, by M. Rémy, Professor of Literature to the young ladies. She went to his house and remained there until eight at night, when she was arrested. She was asked why she quitted Madame Lemaire's house at such a moment. She replied that M. and Madame Rémy, seeing her so shocked, would not leave her to herself. She left word where she was going to with Madame Lemaire, who told the police. The remainder of her evidence is too serious not to be given *in extenso*.

You have to understand that very grave indications accumulate to justify the accusations against the Duke de Praslin of having murdered his wife?—Oh, no, no, gentlemen, tell me that this is not so. It is impossible. He, who could not bear to see one of his children suffer. No, tell me not that they are serious. Tell me that it is a suspicion which will not justify itself. No, no; it is impossible. (Falling on her knees, and joining her hands.) Oh! tell me this, Sir, I pray you. My God! you say that to me which I cannot believe. My conscience tells me that it is not the truth. But if it is a fact, great God! it is I who would become culpable; I, who loved so much his children—I, who adored them; I have been criminal; I have not known how to resign myself to my lot. I have written letters to them—letters which you may see. I said that I could no more live; that I found myself in the presence of misery, for I am a poor abandoned creature, without other resources than an old grandfather, who is severe, and who does threaten to deprive me of the little which he put by for me. I was afraid of him, and I was afraid to tell him that I could not live. I said to him that I could be happy in my little chamber, and that they should forget me and love their mother. When I quitted the house, I was driven to such despair that I wished to die. I had a phial of laudanum—they unmercifully recalled me to life, and life is very sad for me. I had been during six years in that house, she was in the middle of these children, who loved me, and whom I loved more than life; life was insipid to me without them, and I have said it—it is my crime—it is I who am culpable. State it, Sir. Write it. He will have demanded this unhappy letter—she refused it, and then! Oh! it is I who am guilty! Write it, Sir.

Such a state of excitement could not apparently belong to sentiments which can exist between these children and you. Is it to these children, and to these children only, that you addressed the letters of despair of which you have spoken?—Yes, Sir, the excitement may belong to all these sentiments. Do you not understand that? And then I should not like to reply, that, finding M. de Praslin was so kind and generous towards me, a deep feeling of affection for the father was added to the affection which I feel for the children; but, never, never did I carry into that house either trouble or crime. I would not have done so on any account, from respect for the children. I believe that I should have contaminated my daughters if I had come to think that I was not culpable. Is it that you cannot comprehend that we can love honourably? I feel that I have done wrong in making use of the words my daughter's (*mes filles*), which I did not employ; when I wrote to them I used to say "mes enfants" sometimes, in speaking to all this little body.

This sentiment of tenderness was then shared by M. de Praslin?—No. M. de Praslin had for me no excitement of tenderness; but the children were then in ill health—the mother treated them roughly.

We now give here the second examination of the Governess, before the Commission of the Court of Peers:—

How long have you been engaged in the education of the children of M. de Praslin—through whose introduction did you obtain that situation?—Through Madame de Flahaut, to whom I was recommended by Lady Hislop, whose daughter I had educated.

When you first entered the house of the Duke de Praslin, how were you received?—Well—very well. The children immediately became attached to me, and the Duchess was very well satisfied with me.

At this period did not the best understanding exist between M. and Madame de Praslin?—No, Sir. The governess whom I replaced informed me that there were often differences between M. and Madame de Praslin, and cautioned me to observe the utmost circumspection.

Did you, in effect, observe this circumspection?—During a long time there was no necessity for it, for I lived with the children apart in the house. I observed nothing.

At what time did any change in this mode of life take place?—When the children began to grow up. The father had much more intercourse with them, and of course, and necessarily, with me, because I was always with them. Madame de Praslin kept herself aloof, because she went much into society in Paris, and lived with her father; and in the country she kept very much to herself in her own apartment. She even had her meals served apart frequently. I suppose that resulted from some circumstances between herself and M. de Praslin, with which I am unacquainted.

Did you not endeavour, however, as it seemed to be your duty to do, to bring the children and their mother as much as possible together in heart and spirit?—I frequently endeavoured to come to an understanding with Madame de Praslin on this subject, but she would never

acquaint me with her intentions respecting her children. She told me she did not approve of the directions given by M. de Praslin as to their studies and education; but she had promised to leave him entirely the direction of the children until their education was finished. She never put a question to me with respect to the moral or intellectual qualifications of any one of her daughters. She never gave me the slightest instruction concerning them, nor ever tried to attract her children to her; she very rarely spoke to them. When we were alone the conversation between her and myself generally turned upon questions of literature, in which the children from the age of six to twelve years, were interested, necessarily could take no part. These conversations fatigued the children, and made them anxious to be alone with me, who placed myself more upon a footing with them. They were much afraid of their mother, but they were always submissive and respectful to her.

Did there not come a moment when you perceived that you were a cause of dissension between M. and Madame de Praslin, and did you do what was in your power to put an end to such a state of things?—As to that, I at first thought it a matter of very little consequence, on account of the facility with which I saw Madame de Praslin receiving the same impressions with respect to others who came in contact with her husband. More lately, when these circumstances appeared, I had a clear and straightforward explanation with her. She seemed to regard this susceptibility as a great excess of *amour propre* on my part, looking to the secondary position which I occupied, both with respect to her and M. de Praslin. Hurt at finding myself rebuffed in a course which I believed honourable, I refrained from recurring to the subject. As to the children, I say again, could not a mother win them back, had she been so disposed?

In your answers to the questions put to you, the whole blame is thrown upon the Duchess de Praslin. It is very distressing to hear such language from your mouth, particularly to those who have heard the letters which have been read, and who are aware of the provision of a pension made to you as the reward of your services in her family. You have questioned me upon the course pursued in the education of the children of M. de Praslin. I have endeavoured to make my explanations as clear as possible. As to that which is personal to myself, the conduct of Madame de Praslin has been towards me, as it has been towards those whom she knew, and even whom she loved best, very unequal, and often incomprehensible. I have often had much to endure in my *amour propre* in all my feelings. At other times I have been treated by her with interest and affection. Frequently, an hour after she had bitterly reproached me with the influence which I exercised in her family, she would send for me to avail herself of that very influence, in forwarding some design or desire which she entertained. Often after some cruel injury, she would make me a rich gift, and even in the last days of my sojourn in the house, when, having refused to do so, she would not let me at table. I appeared in the eye of the whole house to have been rather more honoured than humbly passed with Madame de Praslin, but by chance suddenly manifested the greatest kindness, as in my most quiet time, and even sent me some books to distract my attention.

This is only an additional proof of her kindness?—But such kindness is itself only a proof that her displeasure resulted from the irritation of a character of which she was not mistress, rather than from what she believed to be serious facts.

This irritation of character was, alas! but too well founded; and did you not, by your letters to M. de Praslin and his children, after leaving the house, endeavour to keep it alive?

Oh! I most solemnly assure you that in these letters was neither act nor design. I was overwhelmed with grief, and expressed my despair with too much warmth and impetuosity. Now, indeed, I reproach myself with that.

After some further observations, the Chancellor observed:—At the end of every answer you utter a reproach to Madame de Praslin.

Mdlle. Deluzy, weeping, replied:—I wish I could not have said that which I have been obliged to say. She died. I wish I could purchase her life at the price of my own. Yes, at the price of my own—not only at the price of my own life, but at the price of my own tortures. She who witnessed, as I have, during six years, every secret of her existence, even minute detail of her life, who can associate with me, the extraordinary, incomprehensible versatility which enabled Madame de Praslin to pass from wrath to gaiety, from disdain to fondness, from bitterness to kindness? I assure you that I feel my part most distressing. Oh! never, except before you—never, never would I have professed other words than those of respect, of veneration, and of regret. I am not defending myself, I am only endeavouring to answer clearly.

After your departure from the house of M. de Praslin, how often did you see him and his children?—Three times. Once with his second daughter and his youngest son. The second time he was alone. He inquired for me at the gate. The third time was last Tuesday, with his three daughters and his youngest son.

When he came to you alone, were you long together?—Three-quarters of an hour. He asked me to get into his carriage with him, because he wanted to speak to me.

What was the subject of your conversation?—It respected the education of his third daughter.

After some further evidence with respect to a contemplated separation between M. and Madame de Praslin, and the circumstances immediately connected with his leaving the house, the examination of Mdlle. Deluzy terminated.

The above examination is in the second series, but the first ended with her preliminary interrogatory. The Ordonnances of the King, convoking the Court of Peers—the decree for the trial—the *réquisitoire* for the arrest—the nomination of the counsel for the prosecution—the *Procès-Verbaux* for the collection of the furniture and materials for evidence—the analysis of the chemists, of the poisons found in the Duke de Praslin's study, &c., occupy a considerable place. Nothing can be more minute than these documents; not a particle of a stain of blood is omitted. The fragment of the Corsican dagger, with its broken handle, the horse pistol, &c., were all tested, and the stains of recent blood proved to have existed. The dagger was, according to the surgeons, the instrument which inflicted the chief wounds, and the butt-end of the pistol the contused wounds. It was found loaded with ball, on the charge being drawn before the magistrates. There was, also, a small pair of loaded pocket pistols found in the Duke's room. The reports of the search made in the Château de Vaux-le-Praslin describe the correspondence found in the Duke's room, and those of the Duchess.

The report of M. Gabriel Crétin, the architect, is of great length; but the facsimile we present of the accompanying plans, will afford the clearest notions of the locality, and of the scene of murder.

The *Procès-Verbal* of the keeper of the Luxembourg prison describes the arrival of the Duke, in custody, on the 21st of August, at a quarter past five in the morning. He was lifted out of the carriage, and carried up to his room. His thirst was excessive, and he was excited because some Bordeaux wine and water was not given to him immediately. His clothes were carefully examined, to see that no poison or weapons were concealed. Guards were placed in his room, and never left him for a moment. He only left his bed once, to be examined, which lasted an hour and a half. His only visitors were the Chancellor, the Grand Referendary the Duc Decazes, and Doctors Louis, Andral, Rouget, and Chayet. Th. Curé de St. Jacques du Haut Pas, assisted by the Abbé Bourgoing, brought by the Chancellor, administered the last offices of religion. From the moment of his entrance to his death, he took no solid food. He expired at thirty-five minutes past four on the afternoon of the 24th of August. His body was placed in an oak coffin, with a number, in lead, 1054, and taken to the Cimetière du Sud, on the 27th, and interred in a grave.

The examination of the body, to ascertain the cause of death, by MM. Orfila, Tardieu, &c., proved the existence of several wounds, twenty-one scratches, being counted on the face. Ten small wounds were found on the two hands, as if they had been inflicted by nails. The brain was in a healthy state; the lungs were sound; the heart was voluminous; inflammation existed to a great extent in the intestines; the liver was healthy. The cause of death was the swallowing of some irritating substance, and the chemical analysis established that it was arsenic. The question as to the moment when he took the poison will remain in obscurity. The medical men declare that, on their first examination of the Duke, at his own house, a few hours after the murder, he was then in perfect health. At ten o'clock in the evening of the 18th, the first vomitings began; and here comes to light the testimony of Dr. Reymond, the family physician. It is quite evident that he had the first knowledge that the Duke had swallowed poison, and that he did not communicate his suspicions to the other doctors until the arsenic had taken strong hold of the Duke's vital functions. MM. Orfila and Tardieu are of opinion that he took the poison between the hours of four and ten o'clock on the 18th; that, although the vomitings ceased in two days, that the action of the poison went on, and that death ensued from arsenic, taken six days before the last agony.

Laurence Ramelot, another femme-de-chambre spoke as to the dismissal of Josephine, at the instigation of the Duchess, and as to her suspicions on hearing of the account of the assassination that it must have been Mdlle. Deluzy. Dr. Reymond's evidence is at great length. He remained with the Duke nearly all the time he was in the house prior to being taken to prison. The most remarkable point is that Dr. Reymond admits that after the Duke was seized with the vomitings, at ten p.m., on the 18th, he left him alone, and did not return to his patient until the next morning, at seven o'clock. Dr. Louis arriving at eleven o'clock. He declared that his suspicions only were excited on this morning (the 19th), and then he communicated them to the Procureur, which, however, the latter denied, affirming that it was only on the 20th Dr. Reymond first spoke as to the Duke having taken poison. The Chancellor examined Reymond several times on this subject, but he urged that his first suspicions were too vague, and that he relied on the superior judgment of Dr. Louis. Chevalier, the chemist, was of opinion that the Duke must have taken laudanum before the arsenic, and that this caused the slow action of the latter poison.

We append letters, extracts from diaries, "impressions," &c., from the documentary section of the Report:—

(Written in June, 1841.)

#### LETTER FROM THE DUCHESS TO HER HUSBAND.

"Wherefore, my beloved, do you refuse to let me share your afflictions? You deprive our life of all the charms of affection! Do you then believe, or rather do you wish to persuade yourself, that independence consists in solitude? You say that I am *exigeante*, because I desire to share your sorrows. You do not like me to remark that you have any. Do you then wish to become quite a stranger to me; and, for that, would it not be requisite for me to become entirely indifferent to you? And how could I become indifferent to the person I love best on earth? Do you think it possible? Would not my heart break long before? You yourself are sorrowful to see me sad, and you know the reason of my sadness; you know how it is in your power to console me, and yet you withhold those consolations. I, on the contrary, I see that you are sad; I feel within my heart a source of the deepest love, sufficient to calm and soothe all your sorrows, and you discard me! Am I not your wife, the partner of your life, she whose duty it is to share equally your pleasures and your sorrows? If you were ill, is it not my hand that would smooth thy pillow? And are not sorrows diseases of the mind—of the spirit? Wherefore, then, reject me? . . . You have a heart to appreciate the joys, the wants, of a loving heart, in which to place full confidence and find relief for your sorrows. It is the violence of my manners that prevents you from placing that confidence in me. Believe me, Theobald, four months of sorrow and repentance have chastened me: it is to love and console you, and not to torment you, that I seek your confidence. I give you my word never to try to gain the ascendancy over you: I am fully aware of your superior character and mind: I only wish to share your life, to embellish it, and pour balm upon your wounds. You left my room because you thought that I wished to gain the ascendancy over you. My friend, I swear unto you, in the name of my love, in the name of yours, by all that I hold most sacred and most dear, I only seek your love and your confidence as you have mine. I will blindly obey you; I will no longer torment you by jealousy; I shall never give you a word of reproach or of counsel. My repentance is too sincere; I have suffered too much to return to my past faults. We are both very young, Theobald! Do not condemn us both to solitude. How! We love each other, we are both of us pure, and shall we live apart from each other both in body and in mind? Do not let your heart be a sufferer from a little feeling of *amour propre*; I swear unto you that I only seek your affection and your confidence; I shall be the loving and obedient partner of your life. My friend, I swear unto you, in the name of my love, in the name of yours, by all that I hold most sacred and most dear, I shall never abuse your confidence; your confessions

will be received in my bosom with the same mystery and affection as thy caresses. Take again your

God, how superstitious does grief make one! So I am ashamed of it. On Sunday, the day of your arrival, on rising I perceived an enormous spider. This frightened me. I have not ceased to deplore your manner to me; every day it becomes more cold and disdainful. In this moment, while writing, I turn my eyes and see a little spider. My tears stop. I feel an emotion of joy, as if a cause of hope came to me. How weak is the spirit of man! Nevertheless, it is in thee, my God, my heart has placed all its hopes. But is it possible that sometimes thou sendest visible signs of thy will? Oh, save him, and, if it be possible, restore him to me. Grant that he may read the few lines that I send him, and that they may touch his heart."

## TO THE DUKE DE PRASLIN.

[Written in pencil, no date.]

You have a rare and precious talent at poisoning everything. While your conduct influenced only the happiness of my life it was my duty to be silent, and I was so. If you imagine, with your muttered words and your threats, to make people understand that I no more approve in public than in private the conduct of a person whom I despise, and who does not merit your confidence nor mine, you are right; for I think it a scandalous shame to allow the presence near young people of a woman who has proclaimed herself as she has done. I know well enough that you have other *liaisons*, and that it is not with her that your life is occupied, but she assumes the attitude. It is this which I have the right to blame. I do not pretend to busy myself with your private conduct and affections, but neither menaces nor ill-treatment will prevent my repeating, as I have a right to do, that you deceive yourself in putting your children into the hands of a woman who has no care for her reputation, and has ceased to respect itself. The system of governesses has always been unsuccessful with us: it is time, for the safety of our children and the dignity of our rank, to change it. As long as my daughters are not married, I will reside constantly with them, I will aid in their occupations, and I will accompany them everywhere. All my plans are laid down; and, when you reflect on the matter, you will certainly find as many reasons for confidence in leaving the education of our girls under the care of a mother as under that of a governess. My father, I know, has made an offer to Mdlle. D. of an honorary annuity. On her going to England, with this assistance, her talents and patronage will secure her a suitable portion more easily than in Paris.

## IMPRESSIONS.

Friday, June 17, 1847.—I must repeat hourly to myself that I have accomplished a sacred duty towards my daughters in consenting to join my efforts to those of my father to send away this woman. It caused me a great deal of pain. I hate *décal*, but every one told me, as well as my own conscience, that it was my duty. My God! what will be the future? How he is incensed! One would think he was not the guilty one. He says he loves his children, and he distrusts their mother, and makes his mistresses their governesses. What a life he is leading; he is losing all his energy. May God guide my children!

Document found at Paris, in the Duchess' secretaire, in a sealed envelope, also entitled "Impressions."

"13th July, 1847.

It is long since I have written anything, and, nevertheless, nothing has changed in the interval. She will leave, they say, when we go to Praslin; and, in the meantime, the empire she holds is most absolute. Father and children, she retains them all as in a special bond. I understand her game well enough, if she have really swallowed all shame; but for him, I cannot explain his conduct. He complains of calumny; but, he confesses that appearances are bad, and he makes these appearances every day worse, and gives more grounds for all the scandalous interpretations. He pretends that their relations are misinterpreted, and yet he publicly proclaims the rupture with my father on her account. He breaks with us, and does not leave her. No character can be more enigmatic. Is it excess of corruption? or is it excess of weakness? Were it excess of weakness, could that go to the length of making him so trample on the interests of his children? What! could he have so much fear of this woman as not to dare, while she is in the house, to leave his children with their mother, or show regard to his wife? What has given her this empire over him? It is not natural. She must have some means by which she makes her threats powerful over him. Poor man, I sincerely grieve for him. What a life he leads! What a future he is preparing for himself! If he allow himself to be thus domineered over and brow-beaten by intrigantes at forty-two, what will he be when he grows old! And yet how I love him! He must have been sadly changed by all these bad habits; for, on seeing what he is now, I cannot explain what inspired in me this love so impassioned. He is no longer the same man: how dull is his spirit—how narrowed his heart—how much has he grown suspicious, envious, and irritable. Nothing animates him, nothing interests him, nothing exalts him. No generous, impassioned, or enthusiastic sentiment seems to vibrate in his heart or mind. He had rank, fortune—all that could render his existence useful, brilliant, happy, and honourable. All is galvanized: he interests himself in nothing either for his country, or for his children. He keeps company with governesses; he is their *cavaliere servente* till he becomes their slave. Truly, I believe that he only wished to keep Mdlle. D. (whom he has not loved for this eighteen months or two years), because he fears that if once removed hence, she would make life too hard for him. My God! what an existence! What is curious is that I am sane. I firmly believe that it is on account of jealousy that I wish the departure of Mdlle. D. He will not comprehend that my moving principle is, and will henceforth ever be, my children. He believes that it is my jealous love for him, and this flatters him. It is singular, but I do not doubt that if he had not believed my love inextinguishable, he would have treated me less unworthily. What an illusion, what excess of self-love! Yet it would, perhaps, have been possible to preserve, at the bottom of one's heart, love for a man who has treated you as he has treated me, if, on the other hand, this man excites our admiration, and elevates himself in our eyes by grand actions and great works. But a grovelling, ordinary man, one loves only if he is just, if he is good, if he is conscientious, if he renders your life happy. It is not necessary that he should do great things, but he must know how to appreciate them, how to admire them, and interest himself in them. I cannot tell how far this contempt and enmity at all things, this total impossibility of taking lively interest in anything, has completely cooled my feeling towards him. I thought him so different. Oh, he must have been so; I could never have loved him if he had been always what he is! Certainly there was stuff in his heart, in his understanding; but the want of firm principles of morality and religion, and his idleness of mind, have caused him to succumb to sensual passions. And with all this he wishes to educate his daughters. How completely has he isolated himself! He has not one real, serious friend. He has no connections but those which have sprung from his pleasures, and which have become chains from his weakness when he wished to detach himself from them. How frightful it is! His drags after him, like a dog, the exigencies of women with whom he has been connected. And yet how *bizarre* are men! He has always sacrificed, oppressed, wounded, humiliated, ill-treated, and abandoned me for persons whom he did not love. For my part, I have loved only him, and with a passion inexpressible—an ardour which astonished me; and now I know not but at the bottom of his heart he perhaps prefers me to those women, whom he despises and fears; and I, I am well disenchanted with him. He will be always unkind to me now: he is too well aware of the extent of his wrongs, and cannot comprehend that I can forgive and forget. My merit would not be so great as he thinks. I cannot be jealous except when I love, and then I easily forgive; and, since my sentiments are changed, I have no further feeling towards him but on account of the wrong he does my children. Our position is very strange and very sad. While he has run after pleasure I have been secluded from it. He has had enjoyments and no love—love for me has been extinguished in tears, and I have not. But what has been worn out by one has, perhaps, been preserved by the other, and reciprocally. How will all this end? I do not believe that this can ever be by a complete reconciliation, as would be desirable for our children. He will always avoid me, because he is conscious of his wrong, and I shall never seek him but from duty to my children. A feeling of shame will always prevent my making advances to a man, even though my husband, when I doubt of my love for him, and when I feel that other ideas, repressed for so many years, have, rather than my affection, urged me to his arms.

"My God! you alone know what privations of the affections and all other kinds I have suffered. If I have not yielded to temptation, the glory be thine, O Lord! O, abandon me not now, for, without thee, I shall sink! My God, my God, support me, direct me! I fear the future, the threats he has made to me, the difficulties which arise daily—but thou wilt be there, my God, and in that is my trust that thou wilt support the poor mother to whom thou hast given strength to strive for her children. Lord, help me!"

The details of the accompanying illustrations are given in the previous columns. It should, however, be added that the dotted line to the left of the Court-yard denotes the direction followed by Auguste Charpentier, on the ringing of the bell. The dotted line on the left shows the direction followed by Auguste, in going to call Merville, and his return by the same line. The strong line, in the centre, denotes the route taken by the femme-de-chambre, Leclerc, to fetch the porters, and her return to the grand saloon, the door of which was opened by the Duke.

THE LATE MR. WALTER, OF THE "TIMES."—The will of the late John Walter, Esq., of Bearwood Hall, Berks, and Printing House-square, London, was executed by him on the 9th of February, 1847, and he died on the 28th of July. He has devised to his son, John Walter, Esq., M.P. for Nottingham, the entire freehold premises and warehouses belonging to the establishment of the *Times*, in Printing House-square, and leaves him all his interest in the business. The freehold and copyhold estates which he possessed in the counties of Berks and Wilts, together with the right of presentation to St. Catherine's Church, Bearwood, he leaves to the trustees under the terms of the settlement on the marriage of his son. The residue of his real and personal estate to his wife, Mrs. Mary Walter, for her own absolute use, and has appointed her sole executrix. The personalty was valued for probate duty at £90,000.

BEQUEST OF £5000 TO THE SINKING FUND.—The will and codicil of Mr. William Akers have just been proved. The will is dated September 22, 1840. There are eighteen legacies of £100 each left to private individuals, and £100 to the Goldsmiths' Benevolent Institution; the plate, china, books, and furniture to his executors, and £50 each. The residue is disposed of as follows:—"All legacies to be paid out of the Stock in New Three-and-a-Half per Cent., and at the current price of Stock on day of my decease; after all the foregoing legacies—having finally settled and concluded in my mind as to any further bequests—the residue and remainder of my Three-and-a-Half per Cent., and also all the Stock standing in my name in Three per Cent. Reduced, may be added in a codicil to my will; but in case no codicil by me, then that the residue of my estate go to the national fund, called the Sinking Fund, out of the regard I have entertained for my country."

## CHESS.

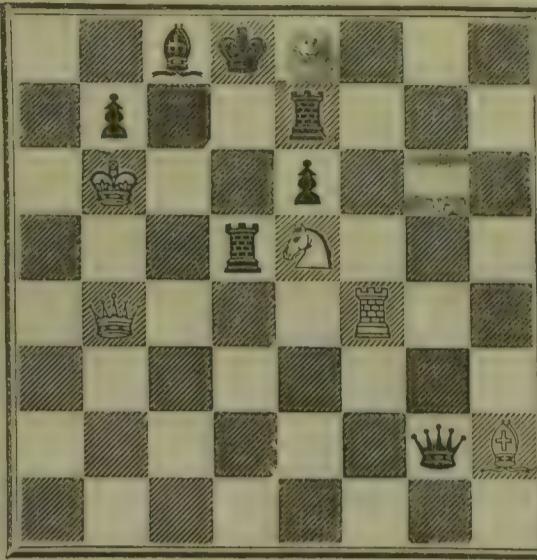
\*\* Our Chess Answers are unavoidably deferred this week.

## PROBLEM, N. 189.

By HERR KLING.

White to play and mate in five moves.

BLACK



WHITE.

## GAMES IN THE OLD WESTMINSTER CLUB.

The following ably contested games, hitherto unpublished, were played in the year 1837, at the well-known Chess-Club, in Bedford-street:—

GAME I.

## BETWEEN MR. SLOUS AND MR. WATTS, THE FORMER GIVING THE PAWN AND MOVE.

(Remove White's K B P from the board.)

BLACK. (Mr. W.)	WHITE. (Mr. S.)	BLACK. (Mr. W.)	WHITE. (Mr. S.)
1. K P two	K P one	23. K P one	Q to her B 2d
2. K P two	K Kt to R 3d	24. P to K B 5th	Kt takes P
3. Q B P two	Q B P two	25. Kt to K 4th	Q to K B 5th
4. Q Kt to B 3d	Q Kt to B 3d	26. Q takes Q	P takes Q
5. Kt to B 3d	Kt to B 2d	27. B to B 2d	K to R sq
6. B to K 2d	B to K 2d	28. R to K Kt sq	R to K Kt sq
7. Castles	Castles	29. R to R 7ch (ch)	R takes R
8. Q K P one	Q K to 5th	30. Kt to Q 2d (c)	Kt to K 6th
9. Q P one	Kt takes B (ch)	31. Kt to Q 4th	R to Kt 3d
10. Q takes Kt	Q P one	32. Kt to K 5th	R takes K P
11. B to K 3d	Q Kt P one	33. Kt to K Kt 4th	K R P two
12. K to R sq	B to K 2d	34. K takes Kt	Q P takes Kt
13. Q R to K sq	Q to Q 2d	35. B to K Kt sq	B to K R 5th
14. Q to Q 2d	Q R to Q sq	36. R to K 2d	R to Q 3d
15. Q Kt to K 2d	Q P one	37. B takes K P	P takes B
16. Q B P takes P	P takes P	38. R takes P	B to K B 3d
17. K P one	Q P one	39. Q Kt P one	R to Q 2d
18. B to K Kt sq	Kt to K R 3d	40. K to Kt 2d	R to K 2d
19. Kt to K Kt 3d	Kt to K B 4th	41. R to K 4th	R takes R
20. B to B 2d (a)	B takes K Kt	42. Q P takes R	B to K 4th
21. P takes B	Kt to K R 5th	43. K R P two	K to Kt 2d
22. B to K Kt sq	K Kt to P two (b)	44. K to B 2nd	K to B 3d

And wins easily.

(a) By this move, Black weakens his position on the King's side.  
(b) White very properly avails himself of the opening now afforded for pushing his attack.  
(c) White's men so completely command the board, that this poor Knight is quite excluded from the enemy's territory.

GAME II.

## Mr. Slous gives the Pawn and two moves to Professor Forbes.

(Remove White's K B P from the Board.)

BLACK (Prof. F.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Prof. F.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)
1. K P two	18. R to R 4th	19. R to Kt 4th (c)	B to Q Kt 4th
2. Q P two	K P one	20. R to Q Kt 2d	Q R P two
3. K B to Q 3d	Q P two	21. R takes B (d)	Q R P one
4. K P one	Q B P two	22. Castles	K takes R
5. Q checks	K to Q 2d	23. Q to her 3d (ch)	Q R P one
6. Q to K B 7th (ch)	K to Q B 3d	24. Q B P one	Q to Kt 5th
7. Q B P one (a)	Q B P one	25. P takes P (ch)	P takes P
8. B to K 2d	Kt P one	26. B to Q 2d	Q to Kt 7th
9. Q to K B 3d (b)	Q Kt P two	27. Q B to B 3d	Q to Kt 4th
10. Q R P two	B to Q 2d	28. Q to her 2d	K to K 2d
11. P takes P	B takes P	29. B to Q Kt 4th (dis. Q to B 5th ch)	Q R P two
12. Q Kt to R 3d	K B takes Kt	30. Q takes Q (ch)	P takes Q
13. R takes B	Q Kt to Q 2d	31. B takes Kt	Q R P one
14. K P to R 3d	Q to K 2d	32. R to Q R sq	P R to Q Kt 5th
15. Q K P one	Q Kt to his 3d		
16. P takes P	B takes P		
17. B takes Kt	B takes B		

And wins.

(a) This is too feeble. Black has no occasion, in such a position, to play defensive moves. All his forces should be brought to the attack of the disengaged King.

(b) Threatening to take the Q B P with his Bishop.

(c) B to Q 3d, first, appears to us a stronger mode of play. (d) An inconsiderate sacrifice.

C H E S S E N I G M A S.

(From the Berlin Schachzeitung.)

No. 100.—By S. LEOW.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
K at Q B 4th	K at Q R 5th	B at Q 2d	B at K 5th
Q at K R 3d	Q at Q Kt 3d	Kt at Q B 7th	Kt at Q B 4th
R at K Kt 5th	R at K B 7th	P at Q Kt 2d	P at Q B 5th
			P at Q 3d

The party which plays first can Mate the opponent in three moves.

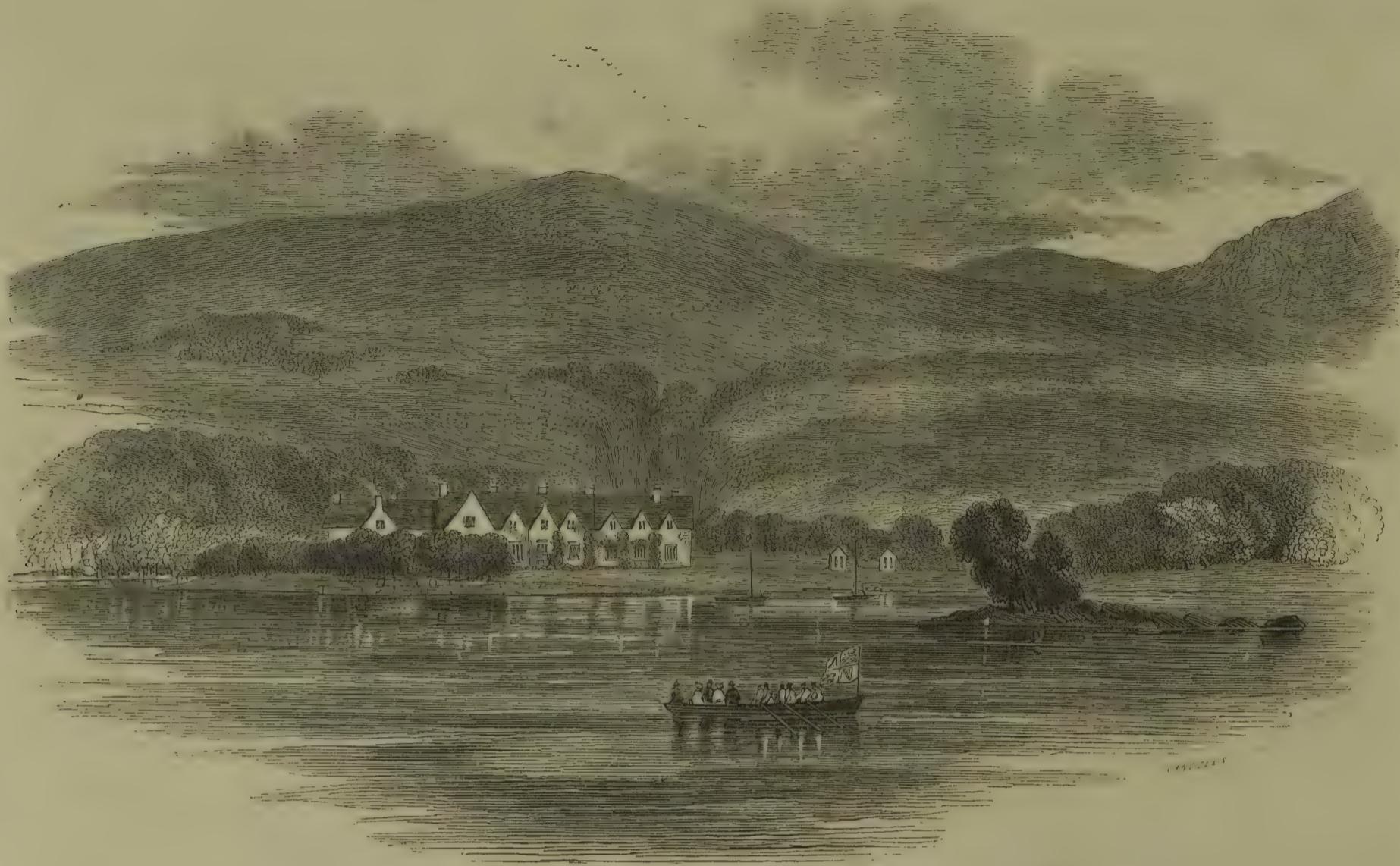
No. 101.—By H. EICHSTADT.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.




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## THE QUEEN IN THE HIGHLANDS.



ARDVEREKIE LODGE, FROM THE LOCH.

## MONDAY.

In our Journal of last week, we detailed the Royal sojourn at Ardverekie, to Monday. At about ten o'clock, Prince Albert, and the Prince Leiningen, left the Lodge, mounted on Highland ponies, for grouse-shooting on the farm of Shervemoor, in Glen Sherva. His Royal Highness was accompanied by Mr. G. E. Anson. The Marquis of Abercorn joined the party at the Lodge, and proceeded with them to the moors. Earl Grey and the hon. Captain Gordon, left about the same time for the moors of Strathmashie. The Prince and the Prince of Leiningen, alone

carried guns, the Marquis of Abercorn and Mr. Anson being, in point of fact, spectators. There was a large retinue of gamekeepers, bagmen, &c., in attendance, Mr. Taylor, from Derbyshire, acting as superintendent.

The Prince conjointly bagged, notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the moors and the shortness of the time, eight brace of grouse and one hare. Earl Grey and the hon. Captain Alexander Gordon, extended their excursion to three hours, and bagged eight brace. It appears that the prevailing disease amongst grouse has extended to this district most extensively.

The Duke of Athol visited the Lodge this day. The Marquis of Abercorn had the honour of joining the Royal dinner party last evening.

## TUESDAY.

This morning, Prince Albert, preceded by the keepers and dogs, rode from the Lodge to Ben-Auider Forest, to enjoy the sport of deer-stalking. The Prince succeeded in bringing down a Royal stag and a roebuck, and returned to the Lodge in time for dinner. While the Prince was in the forest, her Majesty rode out, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal. The Queen and the Royal children were mounted on small Highland ponies; they did not extend their ride further than the east end of the lake.

Prince Leiningen and Mr. Anson drove off at ten o'clock, for Strathmashie moors, and returned at five o'clock with fourteen head of grouse. Earl Grey enjoyed an hour or two of Waltonian sport in the Paatock river, and was rewarded with a dish of black trout. Cluny Macpherson called at the Lodge, and



YOUNG MACPHERSON'S INTRODUCTION TO THE PRINCE OF WALES AND PRINCESS ROYAL.



PUTTING THE HEAVY STONE.

made his Royal Highness an offer of his shootings of Aberairder, which Prince Albert accepted.

## WEDNESDAY.

This morning, shortly after ten o'clock, Prince Albert rode out, attended by Cluny's gamekeeper, to the grouse shooting at Aberairder, and returned early in the afternoon with three brace of grouse, some black cocks, and a few hares. Her Majesty, the Prince of Wales, and the Princess Royal rode out again to-day on ponies in the neighbourhood of the Lodge.

In the evening, the sailors of the Royal yacht, about twenty in number, took up their abode in the inn at Laggan.

## THURSDAY.—CELEBRATION OF PRINCE ALBERT'S BIRTHDAY.

This being the anniversary of Prince Albert's birthday, his Royal Highness was the special object of public honours. A gathering of the clans in the neighbourhood had been summoned to commemorate the occasion; but as the day would necessarily be advanced before the "tartaned array" could assemble from the distant glens, it was thought desirable that the early morning should be signalled by some appropriate compliment to the Prince. The presence of the sailors

## THE QUEEN IN THE HIGHLANDS.—THE LAGGAN GAMES.



THE LAGGAN GAMES.—THE RACE.

of the Royal Yacht was opportune; and, by the Queen's desire, it was arranged that they should repair to the Lodge at dawn, and, stationing themselves under Prince Albert's windows, hail the approach of day with vocal melody.

The morning was most auspicious—the air was calm and balmy, and not a

ripple disturbed the surface of the lake.

The Royal sailors passed round to the Lodge by the floating bridge; and a little after six o'clock commenced to serenade the Prince, by singing in excellent style Bishop's fine glee—"Hail! Smiling Morn!" The deep swell of their voices, mingled with the dulcet strains of the violin, resounded over the bosom of the loch, and was echoed back by the hills. The sweet sound startled the Prince from his slumbers, and his Royal Highness, astonished and delighted, presented his thanks to the jolly tars. The party were afterwards entertained to breakfast, and remained at the Lodge during the rest of the day.

round-backed outline of the Monnie Leagh. To the west, the fine form of Binnan swelled on the view, its base clad with natural timber, its heath-covered summits, where not shrouded with mist, looking sombre and dark in the distance. The advancing autumn has greatly added to the beauties of Loch Laggan, by deepen-

runner; her Majesty giving the prizes. We have engraved the most stirring points of these "Laggan Games," and more especially "the Race," which was a very striking scene.

While the games were going on, the pipers struck up strathspeys and reels;



THROWING THE HAMMER.

At twelve o'clock, the Highlanders began to assemble at the floating bridge. "The scene," says the *Times* Correspondent, "presented a spectacle of unusual brilliancy and animation. Towards the north lay the Lodge, with Loch Laggan extended before it; beyond Corader, with its fine crest, and extending from it a wild and solitary range of hills, which terminated in the distance with the



THE LAGGAN GAMES—LEAPING.

ing the contrasts of light and shade in its scenery, bringing out in their full perfection the brown tints of the heather, relieving the whole prospect from the monotony of an uniform green, and imparting to it more of that wild, solitary, and unfrequented look which recommends it to those to whom retirement is a luxury."

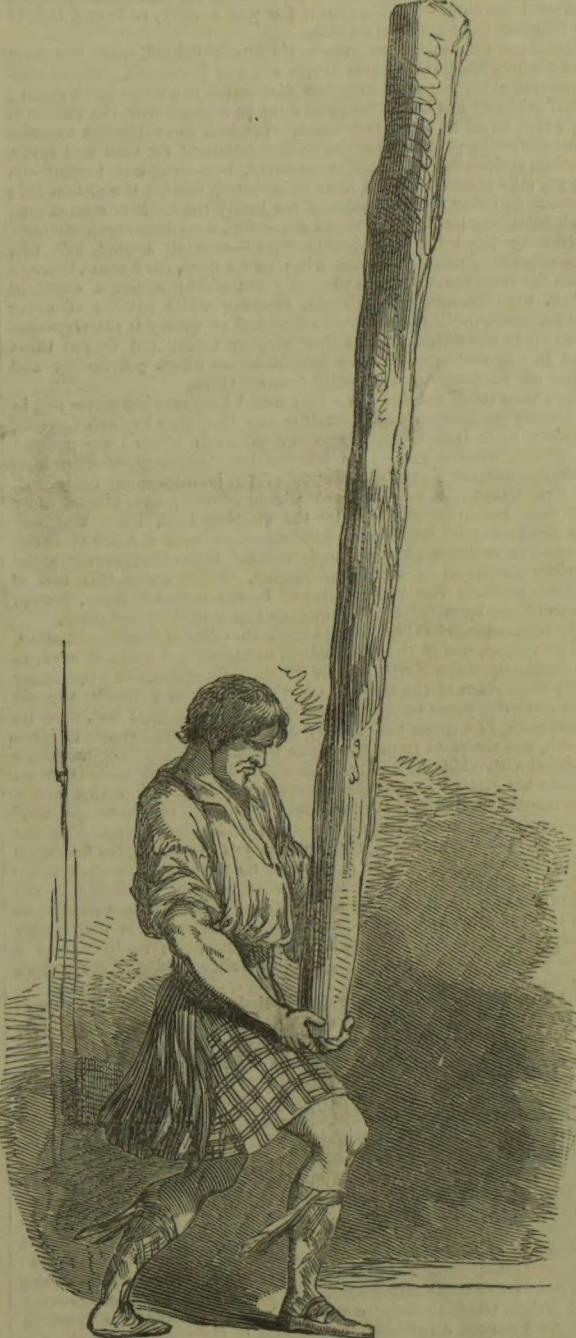
When the Royal Party had taken up their position, Clancy proposed three cheers for her Majesty, which were given with tremendous effect, the sound being taken up and re-echoed by the surrounding mountains.

The games then commenced: they will be found described in our own Correspondent's letter.

The following were the successful competitors in the games:—

Putting heavy stone .. .. .. ..	Samuel Kennedy.
Putting light stone .. .. .. ..	Alexander M'Donald.
Leaping .. .. .. ..	Archibald Gunn.
Race .. .. .. ..	Colin M'Donald.
Throwing hammer .. .. .. ..	Colin M'Donald.

In each of these games, £5 was awarded to the man who stood first, and £2 to him who stood second; the £2 being raised to £3 in favour of the second



THROWING THE CAHRR.





## THE QUEEN IN THE HIGHLANDS.



THE PASS OF GLENCOE.

(Continued from page 158.)  
the people were assembled. It was not, of course, a trial of speed, but a contest, and a very severe one, of wind and bottom. About a dozen competitors appeared—nearly all of them in the kilt, and barring a shirt, not another stitch. The word was given, and off they went, passing the spot where I stood at a rattling pace and well together. The next moment they were lost in the first hollow, only to reappear on the steep heathery rise which succeeded. Up they went, sometimes on all fours, scrambling amid the rocks like a parcel of cats; and then, after glancing for a moment on the summit of the ridge, down they dived into the ravine beyond. In climbing the furthest brae, it was evident that one man had a clear lead. He swung himself round the flag-post, and darted back on the return course, taking enormous bounding leaps down the steep declivity, and flinging his arms about like windmills. It was a curious and characteristic style of running; but the greatest wonder of all appeared to be the condition of the man when he came in. I expected to see him panting and blowing and half dead. Not a bit of it: the Highlanders are rare fellows for wind; and the winner of this Mountain Derby appeared just about as much distressed as I should be after a saunter through the Burlington Arcade.

Dancing and pipe-playing succeeded, and a Highland Bard recited a long piece of extempore Gaelic poetry in honour of the occasion. I regret that I can give you no translation of the concatenation of guttural grunts which formed the lyric in question.

The Queen, the Prince, and the Royal children—the Prince of Wales in a tiny kilt—were upon the ground all day; and I hope that Royalty duly appreciated the exceedingly orderly and unobtrusive bearing of the people. There was no crowding, no rude staring. Her Majesty could walk hither and thither unmolested by the slightest degree of prying impertinence.

Since the games, Ardverkie has been very quiet.

## THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Scenes from the Laggan Games; the introduction of young Macpherson; and the singing Bard; have already been detailed.

*Ardverkie Lodge*, the subject of the large Engraving, at page 156, has been incidentally noticed: it is vividly described by the *Times* Correspondent:

"The Lodge occupies a green flat at the head of a little bay, which glides behind one of the wooded promontories that jut into the bosom of Loch Laggan. It is a long and irregular building, erected in the cottage style, of great size, and occupying as warm and sheltered a situation as so bleak a region could be expected to afford. The background is rather bare of wood; but the birch and other spontaneous productions of the forest surround it on each side. Its triangular front looks slantingly across the Loch, and, from its numerous windows, commands a fine view of the islands, the green meadows of Aberairder, and the lofty mountains which gird the opposite shore. A couple of galleys ride at anchor in the bay; and at a little distance from the Lodge, on the right, the Royal standard floats from a flag-staff reared in a green mound, which is said to contain the dust of Fergus and four other Kings."

"Around the Lodge, and onward to the eastern extremity of the Loch, the land sweeps back in gradually ascending heights, covered with a mantle of deep green, and extending backwards in successive corries till lost amid the dark outline of distant hills. This is the forest ground of Ardverkie; where herds of deer, left to the sole possession of the wilds, are rapidly multiplying in numbers. Raspberries, hazel-nuts, and other wild fruits, grow in great abundance along the sides of the Loch. There is an excellent garden, well stocked with fruit and vegetables, at Ardverkie Lodge; and a number of good milch cows supply the Royal household with dairy produce. A party of London police act as sentries at the Lodge."

*Glencoe*, engraved at page 160, was visited by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, on Friday, the day previous to her Majesty's suite landing at Fort William. (See page 157.) "What tourist in the Highlands," says one of the reports of the Royal Tour, "has not visited Glencoe, one of the most savage and utterly desolate of these northern glens? And who that has ever stood in the stillness of that mountain solitude will ever forget the iron-like ridges of eternal rock which heaved upwards around him, the vast heathy slopes and wastes stretching away in interminable amphitheatres of gloomy naked hill? And who, too, that has lingered in this glen, perhaps in the golden summer time, when the surrounding braes show like masses of emerald, chequered by spots of grey and green, where the naked rock alternates with the foxglove and the lady-fern, but will bethink him of one wild winter's morning, when snow lay deep upon the ground, and when flying parties of wounded men and fainting women toiled on amid the frozen rocks, ever and anon turning to face the pursuing soldiers—the detachment of Argyle's regiment, who were singled out by Stair for the massacre of Glencoe?"

The prospect embraces, on one side, the shores of Loch Leven, rock, knoll, and

woodland, extending, in beautiful perspective, to bare and lofty heights; and, on the other, a rich valley, terminated by the sombre and majestic precipices of Glencoe. The entrance to this celebrated pass, through a long and stately avenue of forest trees, corn-fields, rich meadows, copse, and wood, contrasts strangely with the utter desolation of the barren and stony region which extends beyond its further extremity. Some huts occupy the site of the abodes of the unfortunate inhabitants of this valley, who were treacherously murdered by the soldiers who had partaken of their hospitality.



THE SCOTCH BARD SINGING BEFORE THE ROYAL FAMILY.